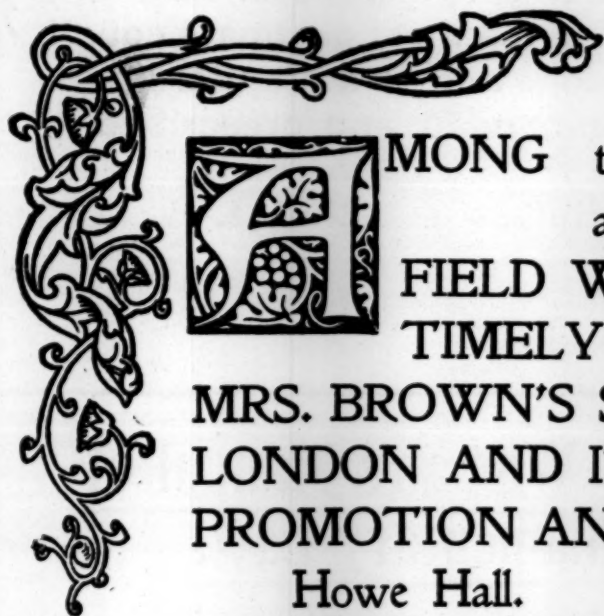


THE CLUB WOMAN

VOL. IV.

APRIL, 1899.

No. 1.



AMONG the prominent features of this number
are: * * * * *

FIELD WORK. Cora C. Jones.

TIMELY SUGGESTIONS. Christina H. Charles.

MRS. BROWN'S SOLILOQUY. M. Wentworth Hopper.

LONDON AND ITS WAYS. Jennie C. Croly.

PROMOTION AND ROTATION IN OFFICE. Florence
Howe Hall.

IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS. Story. Clara Orth
Dodson.

THE CHAIRMAN: IS SHE LOYAL TO THE CLUB. Emma
C. Marble.

VERSES by Robert Grant and Lauretta Stedman Carlisle.

"THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER" by Mrs. J. B. Pillow and Mrs.
Belle M. Stoutenborough.

PARLIAMENTARY USAGE, Emma A. Fox, and OPEN PAR-
LIAMENT, Etta H. Osgood.

CLUB STUDY and UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

NEWS OF THE FEDERATIONS.



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THE CLUB WOMAN

A National Journal Devoted to the Interests of Women's Clubs.

VOLUME IV.

BOSTON, MASS., APRIL, 1899.

NUMBER 1

Helen M. Winslow, - - - Editor.

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It is our custom, following the general desire of our readers, to continue sending The Club Woman to subscribers until notified that its discontinuance is desired. If, therefore, you do not wish to remain a subscriber, may we ask that you will kindly send us word on a postal card to that effect? Otherwise we shall continue to send you the paper on your account.

Next month we expect to give an article on "Vacation Schools," by Miss Sadie American of Chicago.

Just now, when so many clubs are preparing for their annual meetings, Mrs. Hall's article on "Rotation in Office" has special significance.

The subject of nature study for children is coming more and more into prominence as a topic for club women to consider. We heartily commend Mrs. Jones' article in this number on "Field Work" to the attention of clubs.

Mrs. Croly has been made an honorary member by the Pioneer Club of London, and was the guest at an at home given by the governing committee at the handsome clubhouse in Grafton street, on the 1st of February.

"I have had a delightful winter among the Southern club women," writes Charlotte Perkins Stetson, "and find them not only most kind and appreciative, but progressive and able—a splendid force for good in our new national life."

Mrs. Fox's article on "Duties of Committees" in this number is worth the price of a year's subscription to every club woman. In the May number she will treat of meetings of committees, reports of committees and committees of the whole.

"The woman suffragists and the leaders in the movement for the elevation of woman," writes a subscriber, "all start out with the idea that the sexes are equal in ability, talent and capabilities and that they are entitled to the same compensation. Now in reading the various reports from 'Women's Clubs' this winter I am surprised to what an extent men are employed as lecturers and paid double and treble the price paid for, perhaps, equally as good work from a woman. Is this consistent? Do not men look on and criticise our actions in this matter? Do our theories and practice agree? I think not. Every year there are more and more men fitting themselves to lecture and talk to our clubs, because they are wanted, and are well paid for their work, while many a woman struggling to add something to her meagre income (and I know of several such) is ignored by her own would-be deliverers. It seems to me that as far as possible women's clubs should employ women lecturers, and pay them the same price they would a man; the man lecturer would then have to seek some other employment, and the woman would seek to fit herself for the position now held by the men in the estimation of their own sex. If woman will not uphold woman then let us cease to talk of the equality of the sexes."

"THE MELLOWING OF OCCASION."

"FROM each as she has power to give, to each as she has need." This was the club motto suggested by one earnest woman at the Denver Biennial, with the wish that it might be written above the door of every club room in the land. I should rather suggest that it be inscribed over the president's chair, where members might look at it and more or less consciously imbibe its true inwardness throughout every meeting. It is so easy to forget that each of us has something to give to some one—even the humblest member. We impress other people sometimes by our attitude and bearing during an ordinary meeting just as truly as we do when we are on our feet half the time, and perhaps more favorably. There is such a thing as making our presence felt too strenuously. Who wants to be the one woman in the club to whom the other members glance askance when a new measure comes up, wondering how she will take it, or rather, how she will oppose it?

We have all seen that woman—indeed, can call her name right now. The president watches the door every business meeting day, dreading to see her enter; and if important measures or innovations are to come up, sends forth a little prayer from the deep places in her heart that she may not come, or that grace may be given the presiding officer if she does. The secretary feels a cold chill down her spine when her report is submitted, expecting to hear that familiar, "Madame President, there is one error I want to see corrected." The committees whisper, "Now you must all get up and speak, you know, for Mrs. A. is here, and she will be sure to oppose us." And what makes it worse, the Chronic Objector is pretty sure to be a good speaker and quite capable of swaying that element which is a sure contingent of every club—an element best described by Emerson's phrase, "A mush of concession."

She is invariably referred to by people who do not believe in woman's clubs (knowing next to nothing about them) as a "typical club woman." She is not that at all. It is her human nature, not her club nature, that is at fault. If her husband dared to speak the truth he would tell you she was like that before he ever heard of a club. One of the worst features of club life is that outsiders will always pick out some objectionable excrescence of it and hold it up as "typical." They never seem to reflect that the disagreeable woman is disagreeable everywhere, and of course do not know that, in the course of time, club life and contact with other women will soften the disagreeable qualities of any woman. It is a very real part of one's spiritual education to learn how to see one's favorite motion lost and preserve a true and genuine spirit of equanimity.

That bright club-writer, Zona Gale, says, in connection with somebody else's remark, that from the study of parliamentary law her club hoped even to arrive later at the point at which they could see their pet measures lost without a qualm. "Now, one doesn't mind the qualm in the least, for it is not in human nature to carry on a club with qualms omitted. But one does object to the exhibition of the qualm. And the woman who is too well-bred to make active opposition for a perfectly lost cause is sometimes not well-bred enough not to stiffen her face alarmingly, and sit with compressed lips and uncompromising glare through the rest of the meeting. You have seen it done. It has made you uncomfortable sometimes through a whole meeting, and it ought not to be tolerated. A woman in a flowered petticoat and powdered hair and bodice of brocade is put down with frequency in books as pouting charmingly—'a rosebud set with little wilful thorns.' I don't

know how that may be, but put her in a tailor gown at a club meeting, and the little wilful thorns are mightily in the way."

No, that is not giving "to each as she has need." It is by being gracious, broad-minded, tolerant of others, "not easily puffed-up"—nor put out, either; it is by keeping ourselves in a serene, well-balanced frame of mind that will act on others as a bit of bright sunshine falling across a dark corner. We cannot give to others anything better than is in our own natures, and only by keeping them bright and sunny can we shed sweet temper and serenity of soul wherever we go. "How shall we keep ourselves so if we are not born that way?" asks somebody. Cultivate the habit. We have habits of mind as well as of body. Cultivate sunshine and sweetness in ourselves at home, every day and every hour in the day, and we shall have no difficulty in keeping sweet and pleasant at the club. Let us be the woman for whose presence the president waits as for a benediction of peace.

Let me whisper a way to keep in the attitude of serenity. Commit to memory some helpful verse and say it over to yourselves whenever you have time, or, more important even, whenever you get cross. If you cannot pin it to your memory pin it to your mirror, or on your pin-cushion, if you are so old-fashioned as to use one.

I will tell you a secret. On my mirror is hung a ribbon banner with the following printed thereon:

MY SYMPHONY.

To live content with small means;
To seek elegance rather than luxury,
And refinement rather than fashion;
To be worthy, not respectable;
And wealthy, not rich;
To study hard, think quietly,
Talk gently, act frankly;
To listen to stars and birds,
To babes and sages
With open heart.
To bear all cheerfully,
Do all bravely, await occasions,
Hurry never;
In a word, to let the spiritual, unbidden and unconscious
Grow up through the common.
This is to be my symphony.

To read this over every morning is a help towards starting the day aright, and since a woman may glance at her mirror more than once a day without inordinate vanity, one is liable to get several readings of it a day.

There is a man in Boston who has, naturally, a quick, irritable temper, but who is noted for his uniform gentleness and patience in dealing with the hundreds of people with whom he comes in contact every day. In his office hangs a placard with the following inscription, which I recommend to club women, housekeepers, mothers, business women and everybody else. It runs:

"An American poet has said:

"It's easy enough to be pleasant
When life flows along like a song;
But the man worth while
Is the man who will smile
When everything goes dead wrong."

"P. S.—This applies to women also."

PROMOTION AND ROTATION IN OFFICE.

Florence Howe Hall, Director New Jersey Federation.

WE all believe in rotation in office in our women's clubs—or almost all of us do. It is one of our shibboleths or catch-words, and the reasons for it are not far to seek. The chief reason no doubt is derived from the unwritten law whereby a President of the United States is only eligible to office for two successive terms. We feel that we are safe in following in the footsteps of the revered father of our country, and so we are.

The advantages of rotation in office are familiar to all of us. The new broom sweeps clean, and the new officers bring in new life and vigor, new methods, fresh ways of thought, plenty of hope and enthusiasm. With rotation in office a club does, or should, avoid settling into ruts and does not grow too sleepy and conservative.

A new board of officers brings in a new policy. It is like having a new party in politics come into office. We have not, of course, definite divisions like party lines in our clubs; but we have different shades of thought and opinion. Some women believe in growth and progress; others are wedded to precedent, and wish everything to be as it always has been. Some believe in enlarging a club, others in keeping it small. Some approve of the class or department plan; some think a club should do all its own work, others like to have occasional lectures. Some believe strongly in the introduction of current topics, in order that in our clubs, as elsewhere, we may be in touch with the movements of the day. Some think that every club, like every individual, should do a certain amount of philanthropic work, lest our culture become tainted with selfishness. Some believe in having as few restrictions as possible, and as few laws, while others enjoy the intricacies of red tape, and like to tie as many knots in it as possible, as has been well said by Mrs. Howe.

In a word, we have many shades of thought in our clubs, and it is a good plan to have sometimes one set of ideas and sometimes another predominate.

Another advantage of rotation in office is that it is democratic, and prevents the establishment of an aristocratic or office-holding class. The President of this year is not even a high private next year. She steps back into the ranks, perhaps glad to lay down the burdens of office, which bring care and responsibility along with the pleasure and interest which every worker feels in his or her work.

If it is a good thing to hold office as many as possible should enjoy this good thing, say the clubs. If the woman who is president of a club learns in that way how to preside over and conduct a meeting, if she thereby receives a training in parliamentary law, let us give this training and education to as many of our women as possible.

All this is true, and perhaps the question should be, How frequently shall we rotate in office? rather than whether we shall or shall not have rotation. I cannot but think that some of our clubs carry this principle to an extreme. Some change their officers every year, others once a quarter, or even once a month. These changes remind me of house-cleaning. It is a beautiful and delighting thing—a joy to the heart of every true woman—to turn everything upside down and inside out, and to have the mop, the broom and the pail visit every corner of the house, and even the remotest closet. But we must moderate our scrubbing transports. If we indulge in the delicious pastime of house-cleaning too often, we drive our husbands and fathers to seek refuge in an institution of which we do not approve—the men's clubhouse.

Too frequent changes of officers unsettle the happiness of clubs, just as too much scrubbing makes our husbands dark, gloomy, and desperate. Even the most intelligent man cannot thoroughly understand the necessity of house-cleaning. I've talked to my husband about it, but it's no use.

We must remember, too, that the term of the President of the United States is much longer than that of our associations of women. Washington did not approve of the chief executive having more than two terms, but those terms were of four years each, or eight years in all.

It has sometimes seemed to me a little singular that while we have so much to say about rotation in office we scarcely ever mention the principles of civil service reform, principles which have engaged the attention of wise men and earnest reformers for the last quarter of a century.

The principles of civil service reform, as we all know, are diametrically opposed to the theory of rotation in office. Rotation in office, we must remember, was not introduced into our system of government in the time of Washington, nor for many years after. When Jackson came into power two new cries were introduced, "Rotation in office" and "To the victors belong the spoils"; or rather these two cries were in reality one, and stood for one and the same thing. Our revered first President thought the supreme ruler of this great country should have a limited term of office, lest our republic should be turned into a monarchy by some ambitious man. But rotation in office as we now use the term—a frequent change in all offices—was not contemplated by the fathers of our republic.

When the Jacksonian Democrats introduced this custom boldly announcing that "To the victors belong the spoils" the practice was initiated, and continued for many years, of turning out all office-holders, whenever there was a change in the party holding office.

The Democrats turned every one out, and when the Republicans won the day they did the same for their Democratic brethren.

The men who initiated civil service reform said, "This is all wrong. What we need is a trained body of office-holders, men who have made a special study of the work they are to do, who expect to do it all their lives, and who are to be promoted to one office after another, according to their skill and fitness. Men should not be put into the public service as a reward for their political work, but because they are trained and fitted to make efficient public servants. And, instead of a clean sweep at the end of every four or eight years, our office-holders should have an examination to test their fitness for promotion, and those who stand the test best should be promoted to higher offices."

In other words, the principles of civil service reform, as I understand them, are retention and promotion in office. We might call them the promotion of the fittest. They carry out the theory of the parable in the Bible, where, you remember, the man who had served his master wisely and well was made the ruler of ten cities, "Because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities."

In the Old Testament we find Joseph gradually promoted to higher and higher office on account of the ability with which he had discharged the services he was asked to perform. But we do not need to go back to Bible times for examples of promotion in office. All through history we find them, and in our own day we constantly see men continued and promoted in the public service on account of the faithful way in which they have performed their duties, and because they have grown wise through experience can we afford to lose the benefits of that experience? And are we doing well when we throw over an officer who, to natural ability, has added the benefits of train-

ing and experience, and put in her place some one of less ability and of little practical knowledge and experience?

I think not. We do not wish to have in our clubs life-rulers, but on the other hand we do wish to utilize all the talent, all the training that our members possess. Otherwise we are prodigal and wasteful.

By the operations of nature we are constantly losing the benefits of accumulated wisdom. The old die, the young take their place. How often do we wonder and lament this! How strange it seems to us that some learned and good man or woman, some wise and useful person, is snatched from this world, and the benefit of all their culture and experience taken from us—so far as this life is concerned—to be found again, as we hope, in another and a better world beyond the grave.

Death gives us a certain amount of rotation in office, and we can see why, on the whole, the energy of the young life should replace the wasting vitality of the old. But there is measure in all things, and people do not grow old and feeble in two years, the usual term for which a club office is held.

Enthusiasm and energy are like the steam that runs the railroad train. You can't run your engine without steam—but neither can you run it without a skilful hand at the throttle-valve. If your engineer does not understand his business the train will be apt to smash up, and the more steam it has on the greater will be that smash.

Promotion in office prevails to a certain extent in our clubs and Federations, and it would be well on many accounts if it prevailed still more, and if we expected from our officers a thorough understanding of the duties they were to undertake before entering upon them.

Of course in a new club this rule would not hold, but as a club or society grows old in years and experience it seems to me it should reward wise and thorough service. The women should understand the duties of the offices they assume. The treasurer should know how to keep her books in the best way so that her accounts may be readily examined and understood. The secretary should be clear in her mind as to just what she should and should not enter in the records, and as to the exact nature of her duties and responsibilities. A good secretary is an invaluable aid to her club and to its president. She may be called the memory of the club; it is her duty to see that nothing is forgotten, and to keep the wheels of the machinery well oiled so that they will move smoothly. This is a great responsibility, for she is, in a small way, a writer of history. It is most important that her record be true, faithful and impartial.

When we come to the president her duties are so many and various that it sometimes seems as if there should be two of her. My son tells me that in the football season there are two heads. One is the captain, who presides over the majestic game, and gives his orders as to the punching of heads, the charges and counter charges over that wretched pig-skin, etc. The other is the football manager, who makes all the engagements and attends to transportation, uniforms, feeding the men, etc. If we could have two presidents to each club, one to preside over meetings and the other to attend to the business of the club, and perhaps a third to go to the various festivities to which the president is invited, it would make the office less arduous. The theory is that the vice-presidents take the place of the chief officer, but in practice she usually tries to do it all herself. I think our club presidents often try to do too much and so they get so tired that they are glad to retire after two years of hard labor—to which their election sentences them like the convicts.

On the other hand some presidents are still vitally interested in their work after the "expiration of their sentence," and

find it difficult to lay down the reins of power. The result of this is sometimes unfortunate. We find a woman retaining the power in fact, but not in name. Such a woman, perhaps, dictates who shall be successor and strives to have that successor carry out her policy. In a word, ladies, the ex-president sometimes becomes in politics which is called the Boss. A political boss seldom holds office in his own person—and I am inclined to think that one of the evils of incessant and rapid rotation in office, both in the world of politics and in our clubs, is the evolution of the boss. Officers come and go, but the boss stays.

On the theory of promotion in office it would seem as if women should, for the most part, continue in the same line of work. Thus, one who takes office as the secretary of a large association should already have had some experience in the same line of work elsewhere. The same thing holds true of the treasurer—and in my experience, I have found that certain women are recognized as good secretaries or good treasurers and are elected to the same position in several different societies, either simultaneously or in turn.

For the office of president, involving as it does so many different responsibilities and qualifications, it seems specially necessary that a woman should have had previous training, as well as natural fitness. In her own club this may be obtained by serving as vice-president, or as a member of the executive board, or as the head of an important committee. I think it is an excellent plan to have the vice-presidents take their turn in presiding. But here again the short terms of office work in an opposite direction. If a president can only hold office two years she feels it to be her duty, as it is also her pleasure, to preside at all meetings. Thus the vice-presidents often have no chance to learn how to preside by practical experience. In clubs where the president is eligible to office for a longer period the second in command is more likely to have an opportunity to occupy the chair. Some clubs allow the head of each committee to preside in the afternoon when the program is furnished for them, thus giving these chairmen a good presidential training.

It hardly needs to be said that for the presidency of a large association, like a State or National Federation, a woman should have had experience as the president of a club or some similar body. It would, perhaps, be narrow-minded to insist that her experience as chief servant should have been in the club world. Indeed, we often find women who do excellent service in many ways without this previous training. But as presiding officers they are rarely entirely successful if their first charge is that of a great assembly. We demand so many qualities in a feminine president that her ability as a parliamentarian is perhaps not of the first importance, although every woman who accepts such an office should endeavor to familiarize herself as much as possible with the rules of parliamentary procedure.

Men criticise the custom which is so prevalent in women's clubs of looking upon the president as a ruler and leader rather than as merely the chairman or presiding officer of the assembly. This criticism has weight; but it is also true that our presidents are often of necessity leaders in thought if not in action.

Yet they need to be very careful not to arrogate to themselves too much power, or to behave as if they had "Congress on their hands." While our model president should have plenty of energy, she must not require too much of her fellow members of the club. She must not tire out her co-workers. While she should have plenty of plans and a definite policy, she should be willing to relinquish her own desires in order to carry out those of the association which she serves. She must not be

bent on carrying out her own will and forcing all else to yield to it. She must be the leader not of a faction but of the whole body. And while she should be the leader, she must ever be ready, like Abraham Lincoln, to follow the will of the people, for whosoever would be chief among you, let him be the servant of all.

THE LADIES! GOD BLESS THEM.

(The following verses were given by Robert Grant recently in response to the toast of "The Ladies" at the dinner of the Tavern Club of Boston, in honor of those who did service in connection with the Hospital Ship "Bay State"):

YOU ask me to speak in behalf of the ladies
Who shone in our bout with the cohorts of Cadiz!
You ask me to speak on behalf of the nurses,
And with your permission I'll do it in verses.
"The ladies, God bless them!" the toast never varies
From Alaska's cold snows to the sunny Canaries.
Man fills up his goblet and drains it while drinking,
But the sentiment lies in the thought which he's thinking.
Those dear little dolls with their pretty grimaces,
Their kittenish ways and their delicate faces,
Are precious to some because dainty and fearful,
Adorably helpless and readily tearful.
The housewives with tact, rather plump and good-looking,
Nice, amiable souls with a genius for cooking,
Are popular still with the saint and the sinner,—
When the Chair cries "The ladies!" man thinks of his dinner.
The daughter of Spain with the night in her hair,
With the sloe in her eye and an indolent air,
Entrances her lover who taps at her pane;
Delicious! But where are the navies of Spain?

That new woman is fair no man needs to be told.
She has night in her hair, she has tresses of gold;
But what makes her precious for you and for me
Is the soul which is in her, the soul which is free.
Which, bursting the fetters of fashion and caste,
Undeterred by tradition and deaf to the past,
Seeks a post in the ranks, claims the right to a place
Wherever her presence can succor the race.
Wherever there's room for sweet patience and care,
For love which complains not and courage to bear
The stress of life's battle; albeit to tread
A hospital ship in the wake of the dead.
Humanity calls, and undaunted she stands.
There is sweat on her brow, there is blood on her hands.
Ho! dames with traditions, does this give you pain?
Take heed, and remember the navies of Spain!

"The ladies, God bless them!" Long life to the toast.
A health to the nurses who served at their post
In a hospital ship on a hurricane sea
For the sake of our country, for you and for me.

Sometimes we have a vision of that "Ideal woman of the future. She shall be strong of limb, and stout of heart. She shall be broad shouldered and deep breasted, and shall possess sweetness, beauty and courage. Her mind shall possess a breadth and a serenity, and as a result, 'Her children shall rise up and call her blessed.'"—Minnie E. Young, President of the Dorchester, Mass., Woman's Club.

SOME TIMELY SUGGESTIONS.

By Christina H. Charles, President Western New York Federation.

"No stream from its source flows seaward,
How lonely 'soever its course,
But that some land is gladdened."

WHATEVER, then, broadens the stream of one's life, whatever sweetens its waters, whatever floods its current until it bursts its banks, bringing richness of verdure and fulness of fruition to the lands through which it passes, is to be hailed as the life of its life. Whatever would tend to narrow its channel, restrict its flow or embitter its waters is to be banished as far as the East is from the West.

Furthermore, for the stream to stagnate is to breed pestilence and death; to continue to flow is to purify and bless. If these generalities mean anything to us in our federated work, they mean much. They mean that unless the Federation does broaden and deepen the current of all our faculties it is either worthless or noxious; and if the principle or motif with which one comes to it and its work is selfish, the very coming is poison to the organization, and the very power conferred by it upon such constituent shall prove to be her bane. But the Federation of Women's Clubs has thoroughly demonstrated its right to be.

It does draw out the best of thought and energy within us. It does stimulate to the highest moral and intellectual planes attainable. It does enrich the social nature well nigh to the measure of fulness. In a word, rightly understood in principle and wisely appropriated in application it does enlarge and strengthen every element in the make-up of the highest type of womanhood. The whole conception of Federation is good.

Whatever of imperfection may exist in its inner workings and visible results must be charged not to the use but the abuse of its principles. For it is an unalterable law of being that what may be used may also be abused.

The most intensive good may be misapplied into the veriest of extensive evils; even truth itself may be warped into the most misleading and harm-producing error. In view of these basal facts there are a few suggestions which I feel it in my heart to make.

First, every Federation club woman should thoroughly understand the true inwardness of Federation—its ends and its methods, its whys and hows, its benefits and its dangers, its glories and its compensations. This is reasonable. By far the larger portion of our intelligent women are not in vital connection with the great Woman's Club movement, and a larger proportion than one would believe from a casual glance of the club women are as yet untouched by the Federation. This, from our point of view, is the result of ignorance—ignorance in the one instance of the value of the club to the individual, and in the second, of the value of the Federation to the club. At any rate, we are in the minority, either for the reason just stated or because we are in the wrong, both as to principle and practice.

Be that as it may, no minority has any right to exist which does not know the reason for its existence and cannot make that reason clear to those of the great majority. Club movements and club aims, Federation blessings and Federation progress, should be the subjects of sweet and helpful discussions on every hand. By this constant agitation of the subject alone can conviction and action be secured amongst those who are not with us in spirit and life. Not for your own sakes,

not for the sake of the club or Federation alone, but for their sakes, extend to them a hand warm with the throbbings of a sympathetic heart, and lead them up and out into the life which has been to you a help and an inspiration. Again, cultivate breadth of feeling as well as breadth of thought. Neglect along this line is the secret of many a great failure.

Show to the world that largeness of head and largeness of heart are boon companions in the ideal life; that the broadening of the one need not mean the narrowing of the other.

It is the woman who has always lived down between the hills who knows nothing of the wide world beyond, who has feeling only for self and selfish things. The woman who dwells on the mountain top and is constantly en rapport with the great world movements coursing at her very feet cannot but be touched with interest in, and sympathy for, those who bear a part in them. But to fail to respond to these emotions is to lose the deepest and truest understanding of the movements and movers themselves. Standing, then, in these reciprocal relations, the broadening of the one faculty is the enlargement of the other.

Practically, then, intolerance or bitter prejudice influencing thought and action, little personalities in place of broad principles and lofty aims; all these and kindred ills are the indices of littleness both of mind and heart, while sweetness, charity, forbearance, forgiveness, the submerging of self in the cause to be sustained, are the marks of the truly great soul.

Surely there is enough in the larger life into which the genuine club woman has emerged to call out all these characteristics which mark the course of the true woman. The breadth of which these are the characteristics may be developed in two ways:

First, by thoroughly studying that to which we are giving ourselves. The largeness of the questions involved will easily convince us of the opportunity for wide divergences of honest opinion; the greatness thereof will inspire to the laying aside of any selfish thoughts or motives for the attainment of the end sought.

Second, by thoroughly studying the positions and characters of those with whom we are associated in the work. Our perspectives of a common object of vision must be peculiar to our relative points of observation, and its coloring will inevitably be tinged by the medium through which we look.

But none of us are without our traits of loveliness, which, if known and appreciated, easily bridge the chasms between our points of vantage; and how easily we come upon common ground, and thus into unity of thought, devotion and life activity. To know well our common cause, to know our club women for what they themselves really are, these are imperative. May we not, nay, shall we not (if, indeed we already have not) rise above the possibility of miserable little lives of selfish personality into the reality of the broader, sweeter, purer life of self-giving in sympathy for others and devotion to the common cause?

Again, be wise and candid in the selection of your leaders. Beyond possibility of doubt one of the great battles of history was lost not through weakness or unwillingness on the part of the defeated hosts, but because of a petty jealousy between leaders of that army, which had spread from them even down to the rank and file. Grand as is our work, and large as are the results already attained, we are on the verge of dissolution when the narrowing, poisoning spirit of selfishness enters either into the choice or support of those leaders.

One of the weaknesses of our popular institutions is that of unscrupulous wire-pulling. Politically scheming men may, by their machinations, secure that in place and emolument for which they are in no wise fitted, and while personally profiting by

their deposition of better men, yet wreak destruction upon the institutions they ought to preserve and protect. Such miserable selfishness is reprehensible whether seen in the conduct of a Tammany Democracy, a Platt Republicanism, a church faction or a Federation schism.

The spirit of the action is one, the level assumed by the actors the same. When the time comes that women, so eminently fitted by nature and culture to hold the positions of trust and responsibility in our organization and by their very qualifications to demand the suffrage and support of our membership, are not recognized and honored, the days of our usefulness are well-nigh over. Let the office seek its incumbent always! Let no one, from the spirit of self-aggrandizement or even for personal friendship's sake, imperil the cause for which our Federation stands and for which it promises to accomplish so much! Still further mistakes will be made, however honest and earnest the heart, so long as we are mortal in vision and judgment.

Sometimes things seem to some of us to be errors which time proves to be marvels of wisdom both in conception and execution. Occasionally it is the critic, not the actor, who is at fault. In either case no good to the cause can arise from acerbity, division or strife over the matter. Tell, then, not to one another, but to the one in error (according to your judgment) your feeling, sweetly and lovingly. If she is honest and self is buried in the work, just as charitably will she present her version of the case. The truth is bound to be seen by both, friendships have been strengthened and the cause built up. If she is selfish or false in the matter, calmly tell her you can no longer give the support you so gladly would accord. Thus may we shield our child from every taint of selfishness, from every blast of insincerity, from every wave of disloyalty.

Nurture, culture, strengthen her by every means in your power as your very own; give to her that healthful growth and strength as shall make a power in the uplift of womanhood.

Once more, counsel is to be desired; enlightenment we want; consensus of opinion is better than isolated judgment. But no greater insult to your intellect or impeachment of your honor can be offered than for another to seek to dictate your action on any given question.

If any project in your club or Federation comes before you and you are not prepared for action, candidly admit it. It is the only safe and honest course. Have the question left open for discussion and laid on the table for future action. Give to it your best thought, seek its illumination from every possible source; spare no pains to secure the broadest vision and keenest understanding possible in all its far-reaching consequences, and when the time comes speak your mind without fear or favor, and then give the matter the action your own enlightened judgment prescribes.

If out-voted, your duty is done; bow in sweet submission to the weightier will of the majority. Finally, our progress as a whole must be marked by our concerted actions. These actions are the results of our individual investigations, our interchange of convictions in discussion and the final registration of our decision in our ballots.

To the most felicitous expression of these and the ultimate decision we acknowledge certain rules of procedure as the best fitted to govern both in the action and its preliminary steps. Let every woman who values her own time and respects that of others, who believes in the importance and imperativeness of the cause at stake, bring herself to a thorough understanding of these rules of order laid down in our Manual of Parliamentary Law; then let the meetings be unalterably governed by them. Thus alone can speed and equitable action be secured.

I believe in the honesty and earnestness of woman; I believe

in her power for good in the world when working concentratedly, unitedly and unselfishly for principle. And in the hope that these few practical suggestions along the line of great principles may warn of possible dangers and may lead to possible success, I simply close where I began:

"No stream from its source flows seaward,
How lonely 'soever its course,
But what some land is gladdened.
No star ever rose and set
Without influence somewhere."

Who knows what earth needs from earth's lowest creature?
No life can be pure in its purpose and strong in its strife and
all life not be stronger and purer thereby.

"Honest love, honest sorrow,
Honest work for the day, honest hope for the morrow.
Are these worth nothing more than the hand they make
weary,—

The heart they have saddened, the life they leave dreary?
Hush! the seven-fold Heavens echo to the voice of the Spirit:
'He that overcometh shall all things inherit.'"

IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS.

By Clara Orth Dodson.

THE sky was cloudless and the heat baking. On the broad veranda of a comfortable Michigan home were three girls chattering at a young man. He had the drooping shoulders and high, almost bald, forehead of a man of middle years, an impression heightened by his large glasses. There was something miserly in his make-up.

He sat gloating over a photograph as one of the girls laid unction to his soul with these words: "It is a beautiful face, and the girls agree with me when I say the eyes are glorious. You see, we are awfully curious to see her."

From her seat in the hammock Bessie Cramer inquired: "And how long will it be before you bring her here to live?" In a drawling manner he answered the many questions the girls asked and then took his leave.

The youngest of the girls exclaimed: "It's a mystery to me how such a fine looking girl can tie herself to such an iceberg! I wouldn't marry him were he the only man on earth!"

"Maybe she has been clever enough to discover in him good traits we were too blind to see," expostulated Bessie. The other girls exchanged significant glances, and then one of them said:

"Oh, yes! we may be able to like all sorts of impossible people, if ever love affects us as it seems to you and her. I say this with all due respect to your own sweetheart."

The girls were impatient to see the bride, for they were well acquainted with Wallace. They called upon her in the cozy home which had been entirely furnished before her arrival. Tall, graceful, in a soft green crepe dress, she was truly a picture as she stepped into the dainty room. Her chief attraction was a pair of luminous brown eyes. The well-shaped head was crowned with coils of soft brown hair. Not many months later Bessie took upon herself household cares and the name of Mrs. Howard Golden. Then sprang up a bond of sympathy between the young wives. They exchanged favorite receipts and often spent entire days at each other's homes.

Bessie often wondered at the privacy each maintained regarding her own happiness. She often fancied a sad expression in the brown eyes that had impressed her with their smiles.

When an heir to the house of Thayer was born, Bessie was nappy for her friend. She told herself that now Margaret would have so much love to give and receive. The heir grew to

the age of four, but the sunshine of her girlhood never returned to the eyes of the mother. The lives that at one time lay along the same path now turned in different directions.

Bessie, free as a bird, dabbled in books, in kindergarten, in clubs and charities. She never thought to consult her husband as to whether she might do thus or so, and little dreamed that some women were otherwise fettered. Many times she had urged Margaret to join the Woman's Literary Club, but had never succeeded in persuading her.

On the Saturday before Easter the club had made a special effort. The program was on Child Culture, the chief attraction being a talk by a Chicago kindergartner of no little fame. For once in its history the club threw open its exclusive doors to visitors. Bessie thought of Margaret, and on her way to the club house stopped for her friend. She explained the nature of the program and was a little vexed to see no signs of interest displayed; and she was almost provoked when Margaret said: "I wish they might have had a more interesting program." Could this remark come from a mother?

On their arrival they seated themselves near a window, and were soon busy with their embroidery. The program was interesting, and after two papers, one on Children's Literature and one on The Physical Child, a lullaby was sung. Margaret had seemed disinterested, but as the sweet voice ceased its heavenly music, Bessie saw the sunshine pass over her friend's face as she leaned over and whispered, "Mother used to sing that."

Attention was then attracted to the platform, which was a bower of Ascension lilies. There stood the regal figure of the president, her strong face breaking into a gratified smile as she introduced Miss Goodwin, the Chicago speaker. The room had been in a buzz, but now all was silent. This sweet-faced redeemer of hundreds of little children was modestly dressed in a plain cloth gown. Like the presence of a Madonna she filled the room. She told of her work in the slums, how she washed and clothed and fed the children of vice and ignorance. Her tales of the sufferings and heroisms among these little outcasts were touching. Then in contrast she spoke of the little ones of the better classes, who were worse than orphans. They had clothes and shelter, but had they mothers in the true sense? She followed the thought of Epictetus, saying: "What, mother, have you done for your child's soul, a much better thing than all the others which he possesses? Show me in what way you have taken care of it. Do you inconsiderately and carelessly allow the most valuable thing that he possesses to be neglected and to perish?"

Margaret's work had dropped into her lap and her eyes were upon the speaker. Miss Goodwin continued in a soft voice, which, with little tremors, told how intensely she felt on this subject. She spoke of the true mother; not the physical but the spiritual mother, whose heart was the cradle of one of God's children—children not always in years, but in weakness. Then she told how she, although alone in the world, was made happy by the caresses and soft arms of the little ones whose parents never had known the grand divinity of a little human soul.

Two great tears had fallen into Margaret's lap and Bessie tried hard not to notice.

When little Wallace's bedtime came that evening Margaret asked permission to put him to rest. This duty had developed upon the father for three years. As the little fellow trudged upstairs beside his mother, Wallace watched them. In an undertone he exclaimed, "Talk about a Chinese puzzle! Why, it isn't in it with her."

Up in the little bedroom every small article of clothing was gently removed and hung up with a tender touch. In silence

she waited beside the bed till the little eyes closed, and then, stooping, covered the head with soft kisses. Then she dropped upon her knees.

Having noticed how pale Margaret was during the evening Wallace wondered now that all was quiet. Curiosity possessed him at first, then fear. Could she have fallen ill?

Quietly he slipped upstairs and there in the bright moonlight he found the beautiful woman bowed over the white bed of the child. As he raised her and brushed the hair from her temples he found the locks wet with tears. The tenderness of the lover had returned to the husband. For the first time each read the heart of the other.

She spoke of the freedom of which he had deprived her, how she had longed to preserve her own individuality; how she wanted to grow and broaden and enjoy the privileges that all her friends had; how in despair she had lost her interest in everything, even their child. She told how she had attended the meeting of the club that afternoon, although he had forbidden clubs. There she learned from one noble woman what she might be, and now she had resolved to lose herself in the service for others.

He on the other hand explained how he had feared that she might become a "new woman," and owned that perhaps he had overstepped the bound. He showed her how he wished her to be womanly and modest, but acknowledged that his methods might have been wrong. In the future she should not be fettered.

As they stood at the bedside, he with his arm about her and her beautiful head upon his shoulder, the clock struck twelve.

"Wallace, it is Easter morning."

Two souls had rolled away the stones of selfishness and from the plane of a lower existence were rising as He had risen.

FIELD WORK.

Cora C. Jones, Roxburghe Club, Roxbury, Mass.

"**S**AY, mister! do you have to give them cows gum?" This was the question of a little child of the New York slums, during his first visit to a farm, when his astonished eyes first saw a cow calmly chewing her cud.

Shall not we club women, whose children enjoy the beauties of nature in the long summer outings, make an effort during our winter work to spare from our treasuries enough to make it possible for the little slum child and those from our congested districts to spend in the coming spring a half-day in the fields? There, with his science teacher from the public school, he may see growing things, learn the principle of live and let live, and imbibe an education more uplifting, more certain to destroy the hoodlum spirit within him than any he can get between his book covers.

What better work can women's clubs do than service work, and what better service can we give than to our public schools, especially schools in those parts of our city where trees and grass and butterflies never delight the eyes of the little ones?

As Mary Hemenway demonstrated to the school board that sewing and cooking deserved to be a part of the regular public school course, so let us club women demonstrate that field work is a great educational feature. In no other way do foreigners learn our language as quickly as in their efforts to express their interest and joy in the beauties of nature. The little crab, the frog, the fly they cannot look upon in silence, they must exclaim and question. Science teachers testify again and again to the value of nature study as a teacher of language.

Whatever the children see excites their interest. Field work for two half-days in the country, under the guidance of a wise teacher, supplies subjects and interest for a whole season's study. Happy the child who, with his own hands, takes from the brook a little tadpole, who watches its growth in an improvised aquarium until the little frog is once more freed in the fields. That child will have lost his desire to kill. Teachers realize the change of thought in whole classes of children who, after a few days of nature study, no longer chase the butterfly to destroy it, but "to see what he will do next," who no longer put their foot upon some crawling creature, but drop upon their knees to learn something of its habits, or as a child once said, "to see how it goes to sleep." Much can be read between the lines of a composition by a boy asked to write on a rat and an elephant. He said, "The rat is a black animal. He has bright eyes, a long tail and he can run very fast. I never saw an elephant, and I don't know anything about him."

In Boston the value of field work is being demonstrated in the Hancock School on Parmenter street (North End), where a small sum of money has made it possible for the entire grammar department of two thousand children to enjoy and profit by nature study. In what other way can a small sum accomplish so much for so many? Ten cents pay the fare for one child. Now that the girls of the Hancock School are provided for, will not our Boston clubs lend a hand toward giving the brothers of these girls a chance? The Eliot School on North Bennett street is a rare place to demonstrate the humanizing effect of field work, for there are gathered hundreds of boys of all nationalities whose every nature loving instinct is suppressed by brick walls and treeless streets.

The same conditions that we have in Boston are found in all large cities.

Seek out the public school in your most congested district, give a few dollars, or a hundred, as you can spare it for field work, and at the close of the season ask the master to read you some impromptu composition on what the children think of nature study, and you will realize what a real service your money has accomplished, what an impetus toward good citizenship you have given, and incidentally how many cigarettes you have prevented the boys from smoking, by creating a desire to save their pennies for car fares, for the thoughtful teacher spends money only on those who have no pennies to save.

If you still doubt the benefits, go with a class of fifty to the shore. Watch the teacher as she stands at the water's edge telling the children what to seek, and how; then see the faces as they bring their crabs, shells, weeds and sea cucumbers. Notice how closely they listen to explanations of the habits and life of these wonders of the deep. How carefully they treasure their specimens in bottles of sea water to be carried home to be wondered over, and later brought to school for study.

If our clubs stand for service let us give time and money to promote that education which is the broadest of all—the education of experience—that we may prove true the words of Mary A. Livermore when she says of our foreign born pupils, "The new world is kind to them and they will emerge from the public schools with training of body and mind bearing the impress of their wise teachers of today, and with a grander ideal of life than was possible to their parents."

There is now quite fashionable among breeders a hen called the White Minorca, which has a prodigiously high comb—as high as that of the ordinary rooster. A well-known novelist was lately shown a yard full of these remarkable hens, and expressed a wonder why so many roosters should be kept. "They aren't roosters," said the host; "every one is a hen." "New hens," I suppose!" said the novelist.

THE CHAIRMAN: IS SHE LOYAL TO THE CLUB?

By Emma C. Marble, Worcester, Mass.

IN the woman's clubs of today where only two regular business meetings are held during the year, and the others are given up almost entirely to intellectual and social festivities, the chairman becomes an imperative necessity; indeed it has been found by experience that she is a very essential element in the preparation of the good things which are to be served up for the delectation and delight of the club members. Look at our Worcester club calendar for the past year. Twenty-one carefully arranged programs were prepared, either of a musical, literary, dramatic or social nature, and to the chairman is due much of the credit that made this program, almost without exception, such a signal success.

Of the twenty-one gatherings six were devoted to work prepared by club members. The text is simple, but only a chairman could preach any kind of a sermon from it. She perhaps could tell you of the many miles she traveled and rode, the score or more members she importuned and pleaded with to write just a fifteen-minute paper; but everywhere she was met with such club cordiality and friendliness, even if they did not say no, that she gained fresh courage, and at last "Patience hath its perfect work," and club members' day won the favor it richly deserved.

Eleven of our gatherings were quickened into new life and thought by the eminent men and women who addressed us. The chairman could preach nearly as good a sermon from this text as from the other. She could tell you about the infinite correspondence carried on, the making of satisfactory arrangements as regards prices, the attending to press notices, watching the sale of tickets and wishing that some club members would occasionally display a little more loyalty to the club which gives so much and sometimes gets so little; rushing to the bank to get a check cashed, hurrying to the station to meet and escort the eminent talent to the hall; and, after all necessary preliminaries have been gone through with, dropping into the nearest chair, thinking if not saying: "Now lettest thy servant depart in peace."

Four of our gatherings were of a social nature. These occasions form, as it were, the very foundation of club life, for what is a club worth to anyone without the hearty hand clasp and the quiet words of appreciation and regard that pass from member to member? As we laughed and chatted, drank our lemonade and Russian tea, did we give one passing thought to the chairman, who had spent many, many hours planning and arranging in order that everything might be as delightful and perfect as she could make it?

Two of our gatherings were business meetings in the fullest sense of the word. The chairman is always present at these meetings; promptly in her seat at half past two o'clock, she knows that her presence is necessary to make a quorum for business, and that her silence is not golden when it is desirable that she express her well defined opinions. Again she is loyal to the club and to its president, and realizes that that is one way she can be serviceable to the club when she takes her part in its business sessions.

The chairman is always found at the meetings of the executive board. Hot or cold, wet or dry, the sessions of her "training school," as she calls it, must not be lost. Here she learns business methods, executive management and the discussion of subjects in a liberal, courteous manner; also a practical application of the Golden Rule. The chairman is as dependent upon these executive meetings as the club is upon its president or its secretary or any of its valued officers.

It is the chairman who is interested in forming and sustaining classes; not only has she studied Browning with renewed zeal and a better understanding, but she has taken up the study of History, Sociology, Parliamentary Law, Current Events and Physical Culture. To each one of these she has given her careful thought, time and attention, and has also endeavored to promote social intercourse among its members; by so doing she has increased the enthusiasm and loyalty of the club for the club. The chairman is loyal to her club if any member is; she deserves the ready assistance and the cordial esteem not only of the members of her committee, but of each individual member of the club. To make her work successful give her the club's co-operation and then she will realize perhaps as never before that in unity there is strength.

"The Club Woman puts me in touch with the other Federations so that I follow their work without the burden of correspondence. You have kept it so high-toned in its details and so broad in its scope, and thank Heaven! free from the vulgar show of portraits! May I also express my appreciation of your helpfulness to our own Federation by admirable reports, etc."—Miss O. M. E. Rowe, President Massachusetts Federation.

"Club departments in general newspapers and magazines, and local and exceptional club journals all have their uses, but above all we want a national organ that will bring us in close touch with one another, and this The Club Woman is giving us. The clubs that do not take this paper, the club women who do not read it, are the poorer for it."—Deborah N. C. Brock, President Pennsylvania Federation.

"WRITE A POEM FOR THE CLUB."

By Lauretta Stedman Carlisle.

WRITE a poem for the Club:
If I can—"Ay, there's the rub";
Write a sermon or a song,
Make it short or make it long,

Let the thought be weak or strong,
And the metre right or wrong,
Only write it.

Sing of Childhood's sunny day,
Or a pessimistic lay.
Sing of "True love's" sad complaints,
Nymphs or Naiads, Satyrs, Saints,
Pipes of Pan, or Pretty Prue;
Only sing them sweet and true,
For the Club.

Sing of "Daughter" and of "Dame,"
Or of names unknown to fame.
Don't forget the Woman's Club,
How of life it is the hub;
Tell about the heights they climb,
Oh so high! those heights sublime
Of the Club.

Never mind what critics say,
Of the magic of our lay.
From the corners of the earth,
We would bring all wealth and worth;
From the golden fields and woods,
Bring the draughts the gods have brewed,
For our Club.

MRS. BROWN'S SOLILOQUY.

By M. Wentworth Hopper.

IV.

IN the first pleasant days of spring the out-of-door air is very tempting to a lover of nature. There is a wonderful charm in the many signs of returning life visible in the budding trees, springing grass and in the bursting bulbs which release the flower stalks of the crocus, daffodil or narcissus to display the first color of the season.

Mrs. Brown has been greeting these awakened friends of last year, all the more prized because the winter snows buried them so long from her sight. With a few bright crocuses in her hand she has found a resting place in the summer house, where the leafless vines permit the welcome sunshine to enter and bring with it enough of warmth and brightness to make the place a delightfully pleasant one in which to dream. While she caressingly handles the flowers the lines of her face relax and her thoughts wander away from the present, and subjects in which she feels deep interest crowd the flowers, sunshine and soft air all out of her consciousness, and she repeats again and again:

"Is it true? Is it true? Can war come to this grand and liberty-loving country? With what rapidity events have followed one another, each one bringing with it some unexpected problem to solve, while the whole trend seemed unalterably set towards war, inevitable war. An altruistic war it must be called, and such a term was never before applicable to a contest between nations. Altruism, doing for others, this appears to be the watchword that mankind has chosen for the closing years of the nineteenth century.

"If we take a general view—a bird's-eye view, we might say—of the great ocean of life, if we note how its waves and swells have borne and carried to their destiny the human souls that floated on its bosom, we can but mark the great thought waves periodically moving humanity forward toward a higher civilization. As scientists now explain many phenomena by the theory of vibrations, I wonder if these majestic swells or thought waves are not the greater vibrations of the macrocosm.

"The distinctly marked undulations that have affected the present nations of the world have all been stamped to indicate their class. There was the fanatical wave that rolled over Europe and carried the Crusaders eastward to the Holy Land. The educational wave was heralded by Abelard, and it brought with it a spirit of inquiry that developed the scholastic philosophy and led to an investigation of the older traditions and theories of mankind. The grand swell of religious enthusiasm that was raised by the begging friars—the Franciscans and Dominicans—was followed by a reformatory wave which was set in motion by Martin Luther. The ripples that spread outward from this great undulation took on distinct types in various localities, and we find Protestantism bearing the imprint of Calvinism, Wesleyanism, Puritanism and many other isms. These divisions were created because individuals sought out the points upon which they could not agree, such, for instance, as election, sanctification, predestination, baptism and other unessential points, and used them for the nucleus around which to build a separate denomination. This practice has continued until now a multitude of rival, if not antagonistic, societies must be supported, although their tendency is to sunder individuals rather than to unite them. Divisions have also been formed in the industrial and commercial world in the same way by emphasizing points of difference, and we have agriculturists, mechanics and capitalists, professional men, trades-people and laborers, and when these are again sub-divided into Catholics, Protes-

tants, Jews and heathen it requires a vast number of labels to distinguish one from the other. Yet these divisions are all artificial and arbitrary, being dependent upon position, vocation or belief, while all the time humanity is one great whole.

"The thought wave now moving over the world, and upon the crest of which this generation is being carried onward toward a new century, is distinctly altruistic. The first attempt to obey this impulse was shown in giving, in trying to help others by sharing material wealth; and benevolent institutions increased and dependents received a greater degree of care. But giving is only one form of altruism, and not the highest, its latest interpretations being to arouse and stimulate individuals to create their own opportunities or rise to those they have, no matter what the environment; and this means mutual helpfulness or the Golden Rule summarized.

"The club movement is the truest expression of the feeling of the age that has yet become manifest, for its aim is to find the points upon which all agree—to unite all efforts along general lines—to lay stress only upon universal ideals. Women have to wear class labels as well as men, for there are divisions everywhere. We hear of farmers' wives, business women, factory girls and home women, but somehow when we meet a club woman we do not peer about to learn what name is on the label that is covered by this more general one. She may wear a badge on which is written aristocrat, press-woman, teacher, stenographer or any other of the long list of class labels that have been invented to distinguish the differences of condition or vocation; but when the inclusive label, club woman, is worn over any of these we know that she is interested in the things that pertain to humanity as a whole, that she is seeking for points of agreement instead of points of difference."

While Mrs. Brown was thus roaming in the thought world, getting, metaphorically, on the heights to view human life in its entirety, she did not observe a robin red-breast that came hopping along the path. This feathered herald of spring felt impelled by climatic conditions to go house-hunting, and something about the arbor attracted him in that direction, but the strange figure in the corner arrested his movements. He peered first one way, then the other, turning his wise little head coquettishly from side to side; but the dark gown and immovability of our friend lulled his suspicions somewhat, and after running and hopping nearer and nearer to her feet for several minutes he bravely flew into the vines above her head. This action aroused Mrs. Brown with a start, so Mr. Robin learned that his first impression was wisest and flew away to a safe distance to watch developments. She found the fragile flowers in her hand limp and withered, so concluded that some time had elapsed since she settled in the cosy corner, and that lunch time must be near if not already at hand; so she strolled toward the house, wondering if this habit of abstraction that seemed to grow upon her was dangerous or beneficial. Before she disappeared through the door we heard her say:

"One thing I do know, and that is that the trivial annoyances that come into daily life seem to dissolve into misty unrealities since these broader thoughts occupy my mind—since I have learned to analyze emotions and sensations and so determine their character."

The door closed, the robin chirped his pleasure in the summer-house, while the warm sunshine continued its labor of awakening the life that was slumbering everywhere.

"The Club Woman certainly deserves success of the most pronounced character—it is just what any club woman worthy of the name is looking for—or I'm much mistaken regarding the needs of my sisters in this 'sphere.' I have been a subscriber for three months, and will renew next month for a year."

Sara E. Hartman,—San Francisco Evening Post.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER. FEDERATION.

By Mrs. J. B. Pillow, President Arkansas Federation.

A MERICAN women for years have been organizing clubs for improvement of various kinds; these clubs have combined into Federations, giving them a scope and influence hardly expected at the beginning. They have grown into a closely definite organization and into membership in a national body. They now meet in general convention, and show by their knowledge and by their efficiency in dealing with questions of improvement in library and philanthropic subjects they are bound to occupy prominent places in the broad field of sociology. We believe strength is derived from united effort, and the comparison of views, aims, etc., brought about by federating serves to raise the general standard. We may grasp as many different subjects as there are conditions and yet we will find a common ground for Federation. But we do think women who are at the head of their State Federations and represent them in the National Federation should not be relegated to the rear by those who often have not even a correspondence with their state clubs except once a year to report to their state meeting, or once in two years to prepare their reports for the Biennial. I do not speak from any personal feeling, for I realize fully that she who represented the chairman of correspondence from my own state was a more creditable representative than the president, who was so dazed from her first attendance at a Biennial she could scarcely find courage to open her mouth to give her two minute report. But the faculty of observation was not deadened, and how to handle this constantly increasing body of women is a mighty problem. The easiest solution seems to be by representation from the State Federations. The individual clubs composing the state organization to give of the best of their talents and energies to promote successfully their respective State Federations. We were all convinced that the national body is growing too unwieldy, for even Denver with her hospitality as broad as her Western plains, and her incomparable graciousness, could not have managed and taken care of the hundreds except by being headed by the finest of executive ability. We are all imbued (or ought to be) deeply with state pride, else how could we be good American citizens or worthy to preside over women's clubs? And we each desire and intend our Federation to be a power for good in all lines that tend to the betterment of women and children, and men, too, if they will let us. Arkansas may have been somewhat slow in forming her clubs into state organization, owing to the distances of her towns, through the poor facilities for travel, and the presence or nearness of so few intellectual centres. But now that we have a practical organization we hope to bring every woman in the state under its beneficent influences. We want the General Federation to continue, but believe the time has come when delegates to that body should be only through the state. We believe the General Federation stands to club women as the nation stands to our citizens, first the nation, next the state—and so our General Federation first, our State Federation next, and our club last.

A VOICE FROM NEBRASKA.

I quite agree with Sarah E. Temple, late president of the Vermont Federation, in the opening words of her most interesting letter found in the President's Corner of the December number of *The Club Woman*, in which she says, "It seems almost an intrusion that I, who am not now president of any-

thing and have passed entirely out of the list of officers for whom this corner was intended, should occupy any space herein at this time."

There are so many delightful memories connected with the Denver meeting—that meeting which did so much for the women who were there, broadening judgment, stimulating higher thought and fostering loyalty to womanhood—that to say the meeting was a success is weak expression of its value.

But the one meeting which will ever remain to me a "joy forever" was a little company of earnest-hearted women who met in an "upper room," the room nearest to the sky—far above the roar and din of the bustling crowd—whose windows looked out toward the golden West and the mountains covered with eternal snow. In this quiet place for the time being we forgot whether we had an autocratic government led by a president, or an aristocratic government conducted by officers, or executive committee, or a self-governing republic—forgetting even the dividing line between the president and state chairman of correspondence. All else, save the one object that brought us together—to render an account of our stewardship.

As one president after another arose to give her report, aside from the inspiration gained as each briefly reviewed the work accomplished in her own state, it was indeed heart-warming to see these women, face to face, whose letters breathing gentle courtesy had so often come to us.

In this meeting I saw the highest type of self-fulfilment in loving service, a sure proof that the purpose of each and every woman present was not for self, but for the benefit of humanity, and as I listened to these reports the words of Emerson came to me, "Every man I meet is my master in some point and in that I learn of him."

The two reports which to my mind brought out most forcibly the fact that this club movement means co-ordination of the forces of social life were given by Mrs. Tuller of North Dakota and Mrs. Douglas of Oklahoma. The first named president referred to her work as a story of beginnings rather than of growth. This Federation has fourteen clubs and four of these belong to the General Federation. These fourteen clubs are composed of women who are making new homes under new conditions and Mrs. Tuller struck the keynote to her work when she said, "We aim to bring to the homes of North Dakota all that is included in the qualities of ideal club women."

Her report was brief, but there were women who appreciated what it meant—the opening chapters of this story, written, perhaps, when the wheat was in the shock, or the big ears of corn bending toward the earth, or when the trumpets of the sky had blown the air full of flying snow and the thermometer was down below zero.

Among the huge pyramids, domes, towers and spires of rocks and colored clays, this brave woman has laid the foundation of a living monument in the "Land of the Dakotas."

Truly "Unity in Diversity" exemplifies this Federation, but in years to come the women of that section of country will rise up and call this woman blessed who is today organizing library associations and lecture courses, opening reading rooms and correspondence departments, doing many things to keep in touch with the lonely woman on the ranch, and in blessing others is herself blest.

The "last words" of our president, the woman who for four years had been an inspiration to us, will never be forgotten.

The one meeting in the "upper room" will ever remain a sweet memory to the ex-president of the Nebraska Federation.—Belle M. Stoutenborough.

Is your year up? If so, please attend to your renewal.

BOOKS.

"A CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE," by Francis Newton Thorpe, is in two volumes, and treats of the subject within the limits of 1776 and 1850. The establishment of a republic by our fathers was at once a bold undertaking and a serious one; it had little to gather from other similar federations in the making of a constitution and the granting of freedom to a people all of whom owned allegiance to a potentate of some sort, and under whom there was not much of civil or religious liberty. The study of the growth of the constitution is one of the most interesting of topics, and he must be a profound student of the philosophy of history if he can set forth in clear light the evidence of the changes in the ideas and opinions which the American people have held respecting the principles, the organization and the administration of their civil institutions. The author is a deep and indefatigable student; he has delved into documents relating to laws and constitutions; he has the power of differentiation and classification, and he understands the principles of historic perspective. He treats of the progress of our country with a calm, philosophical acumen; is strictly impartial in his statements, and seeks to make a candid and lucid exposition of the causes which have brought about the present state of society in the United States. He maintains that "our constitutional history is of a constituency that has grown humane as it has become conscious of its responsibilities." The student of the history of constitutions and of our country's history cannot intelligently read history with this scholarly work wanting. It is necessary to the student as to the statesman and the publicist; every public man must know the conclusions Mr. Thorpe sets forth in this work if he would be a well informed, intelligent participator in the affairs of the nation. It is a monumental work and stands practically alone in its treatment of the American Constitution.—(Harper & Bros.)

"Art for Its Own Sake," and "Nature for Its Own Sake" are two books by John C. Van Dyke. The former has been before the public for several years, being now in its eighth edition, winning new readers every year and strong admirers with every reading; the latter book is but recently put forth and is a worthy companion volume to the work on art. In each of these books, notable because written by one who has a passionate love for art, whether in nature or on canvas, there is the profoundest philosophy underlying the subject, coupled with a thorough scientific knowledge of every branch of the subject and an absorbing love of the beautiful, the true, the good in everything. One cannot read "Art for Its Own Sake" and not have a truer appreciation for the correct in art, a keener knowledge of the principles governing it, and a deeper love for all its expressions. In the book the author does not attempt to set forth the history of art, nor its theory, but to speak of painting as practised by the painters of today and yesterday, treating the subject from the artist's point of view and not from that of the metaphysician's or the public's. His object is not to teach one how to paint a picture, but to give some idea of how to appreciate a picture after it is painted. His treatment of the subject is marked by a broad sympathy, freedom from narrow prejudice, excellent taste and good judgment. As a handbook on the study of art on the lines mentioned it is peerless. It is practical, sensible, thorough, usable and inspiring on every page.

In "Nature for Its Own Sake" the author asserts that the word "Nature" as used by him does not comprehend animal life in any form; it is applied only to "lights, skies, clouds, waters, lands, foliage—the great elements that reveal form and color in

landscape, the component parts of the earth-beauty about us." "Nature," he says, "is neither classic nor romantic; it is simply—Nature." * * * Mountains do not "frown," trees do not "weep," nor do skies "smile." "The forms of this earth need no association with mankind to make them beautiful." The object of the book is "to call attention to that nature around us which only too many people look at every day and yet never see; to show that light, form and color are beautiful regardless of human meaning or use; to suggest what pleasure and profit may be derived from the study of that natural beauty which is everyone's untaxed heritage, and which may be had for the lifting of one's eyes." The book is most delightfully written; it is itself a picture, or a series of pictures, each presenting some phase of nature full of life and power. It is a healthful, stimulating book, replete with suggestions and beautiful imagery and exquisite thought. In clubs these two books must be held to be most serviceable in classes studying art, nature and literature.—(Charles Scribner's Sons.)

In "A World of Green Hills," by Bradford Torrey, we have some observations of nature and human nature in the Blue Ridge, observations that only such a nature-lover as Mr. Torrey could take. Mr. Torrey's previous books are all delightful studies of nature, full of the green fields and pastures new, with pictures charming and insistently true. In his latest book he takes us in rambles through North Carolina and a bit of Virginia, in the latter state to a nook in the Alleghanies and to the Natural Bridge. The bright eyes of Mr. Torrey see what nearly all other travellers pass unheedingly by, and the point of view is so perfectly taken and the picture is so delightfully described that one can perforce look through his eyes upon the scene. Nature in all its aspects is unfolded before us, and the panorama is bright with the finest colors and purest tones.—(Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"A West Point Wooing," by Clara Louise Burnham, is a volume of short stories, the initial story giving the title to the book. There are thirteen stories in all, the scene of most of them being laid at West Point, which place is described with accuracy, the life there of the cadets being entirely familiar to Mrs. Burnham. The stories are charmingly told, they are all love stories and all end happily—"they were married and were ever after happy." It makes a delightful addition to the increasing list of volumes put forth by Mrs. Burnham, and will be received by her numerous admirers with pleasure.—(Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"The Phantom Army," by Max Pemberton, is a story of a man and a mystery, crammed full of daring deed, exciting adventure, gallant encounter and love, intrigue, politics and real war. In the prefatory note the author sets forth the purpose of the story, and this is so succinctly told, and is so unusual in a novel, that we cannot refrain from making an extract or two. "I would take this opportunity," says the author, "of saying that 'The Phantom Army' is an attempt to depict the enterprise of a man who is a victim of the Napoleonic idea. In this endeavor I have sought to show what might be achieved by a lawless province, befriended by a people ripe for revolution and so organized that in every country of Europe a refuge from the law and the police is open to them." The plot is well built up and the movement of the story is rapid and coherent. The characters are for the most part substantial and well defined, the arch villain and hero of the story being incisively drawn and made very real. As an adventure story it is a success.—(D. Appleton & Co.)

Four stories and two plays make up the contents of Paul Leicester Ford's latest book, issued under the title of "Tattle-Tales of Cupid." The tales are bright, sparkling and charming. The plays are rather mechanical and stiff; they would have been easier reading if they had been served up as stories. In spite of the brightness of the conversation in the stories, and it is exquisitely clever and delicious, bubbling with genuine wit and mirthful humor, we do not feel that the stories lend themselves as an increment in the appreciation we have for the author. We confess we like him best as the writer of "The Honorable Peter Sterling," or "The True George Washington," or "The Story of an Untold Love." These short stories, however, are constructed with the unities strictly preserved; they are dainty, brilliant, glowing, often piquant. If they are the offspring of Mr. Ford's brain when resting from the severer labors of his more pretentious works they are gratefully received, quickly read and promptly forgotten.—(Dodd, Mead & Co.)

"A Romance of Summer Seas" is the title of "Winnie" Davis' last novel, which was published about the time of her death. Varina Anne Jefferson-Davis was the daughter of the president of the Southern Confederacy, and held a peculiar place in the affections of all the Southern people. "A Romance of Summer Seas" is a distinctly unusual book, abounding in fine situations and dramatic dialogue. From the opening paragraph to the close the author seems to have known what she wanted to tell and to have told it in crisp, strong language and with a firm purpose. Southern women especially will enjoy this novel, although it can be recommended to all women.—(Harper & Brothers, New York.)

"The Crook of the Bough" is a good story by the author of "A Girl in the Karpethians," Menie Muriel Dowie. It is an English story (no American girl would have a name like that!) and the scene is laid in London at first, with branchings out all over Europe. Of course it is a love story, but the ending is unusual and the tale is told in a style that holds the attention throughout the book. The conversation is fascinating and plentiful and the situations always interesting. A book well worth reading. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.)

In Appletons' "Town and Country Library," which we have before referred to as the best paper-covered series of novels ever issued, are several new volumes. "The Key of the Holy House," a romance of old Antwerp, by Albert Lee, calls for nothing but praise. The story is told in fascinating language and possesses a strong interest up to the end, with sufficient mystery to keep the reader absorbed in the tale. "Riccroft of Withens" possesses all the good qualities of Mr. Halliwell Sutcliffe's previous work. He reproduces life on the moors with a sure, swift stroke, and his figures stand out with uncommon vividness. The interest of the story, which is an excellent one, is maintained to the very last. "A Writer of Books," by George Paston, is along another line and is remarkable for the ease and excellence of its style. "George Paston" is the nom de plume of a woman who writes with a crisp and witty pen. This story is brightly written and may even be called a witty book, as it sparkles with clever conversation and quick-witted, epigrammatic sayings.—(D. Appleton & Co., New York.)

"A Lover of Truth" is a charming love story by Eliza Orne White, who first attracted attention with "A Browning Courtship," than which she has done nothing better. This book, however, is well worth reading, as it abounds in incident and plenty of brilliant dialogue. "If a man chanced to come up to

the new woman's standard, mentally and morally," observes one of the characters, "he would be sure to put himself out of her good books by the kind of necktie he wore or the awkward way in which he held his fork."—(Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.)

"The House of Hidden Treasure" has Maxwell Gray's name on the title-page, and that is recommendation enough for most novel readers. It is a book that deals with people of our own generation, and it is concerned with the life of today. It is true that at the outset the book gives good promise of family ghosts and of family traditions, but as soon as the true characters of the story appear upon the stage we recognize them as familiar forms. They belong to the present time and differ but little from personages whom one meets often here in America. But the novel is wholly English, as might be expected of the woman who wrote "The Silence of Dean Maitland." The story has an absorbing interest and has already proved very popular.—(D. Appleton & Co., New York.)

"Bob, Son of Battle," is one of the remarkable books of the day, about which everybody is talking. It is only the story of two sheep-dogs in the North of England, a bad dog and a good one; but it is so strongly told that it takes hold of one like the tales of Kipling. The author is Alfred Ollivant, a young Englishman who has known and loved his dog and writes of the dog-nature with a forceful fluency that makes the reader laugh and cry and even lie awake o' nights remembering it. It is a most unusual book and so well worth reading that the publishers offer to send it post-paid to any address on approval, to be paid for if satisfactory, or to be returned in case it is not wanted after examination. This is a system devised for the accommodation of out-of-town book buyers, and we think it might have special interest to some of our readers.—(Doubleday & McClure Co., 141-155 East 25th street, New York.)

One of the most brilliant lecturers of today is John Kendrick Bangs, the well-known New York humorist. His paper, "The Evolution of the Humorist," is an interesting combination of historical facts and thorough research, with that peculiar and original style of humor which made "Coffee and Repartee" and "The House-Boat on the Styx" so famous. Women's clubs in search of something enlivening as well as instructive will do well to consult the editor of The Editor's Drawer in Harper's Monthly.

"I have a little six-year-old niece," writes a friend of The Club Woman, "who says the most quaint and entertaining things, and though she cannot speak plainly yet she uses some very large and impressive words. She came in from Sunday school recently and announced with genuine solemnity that the golden text was, 'If any man is thirsty let him come and drink on me.' The dear child was so earnest I had to postpone my laughter. Tonight we heard her howling after she was in bed, and mamma stepped to the foot of the stairs and asked her what was the matter. She explained that she tried to think of pleasant things, but bears and things dropped into her mind and agitated her."

One of the lessons which comes to us from the late Biennial is that the progress which was so marked at the meeting is due in a great measure to the broad democratic principles upon which the Federation was founded, because this organization includes women from all walks of life, and "from the highest officer to the humblest club woman the line is unbroken."—Rebecca D. Lowe.

PARLIAMENTARY USAGE.

Mrs. Emma A. Fox.

IV.

COMMITTEES.

The employment of committees is such a convenient method of facilitating the transaction of business that their appointment is a settled custom in all organizations, large or small.

The advantage of having committees lies in the fact that the work may thus be subdivided and each committee may give the special subjects referred to it that careful and deliberate examination which for lack of time and the multiplicity of the subjects considered it would be impossible for the entire assembly to give.

The work of large assemblies is done so largely by committees that often the part performed by the assembly is little more than voting upon the reports of committees. Obtaining a favorable report from a committee on any proposed measure is almost equivalent to favorable action by the assembly.

Committees may be appointed by the chair, by ballot or by viva voce vote of the members, but no committee can be appointed without the authority of the assembly, either by standing rule or by motion.

Committees are of three kinds: standing committees, special committees and committees of the whole. As these articles are written with special reference to the work of women's clubs, no mention need be made of joint committees or of conference committees, as they only exist in legislative bodies consisting of two branches.

Standing committees are those which are appointed for a period of time, usually one year, for the performance of certain duties specified in advance. They are usually named with reference to the duties devolving upon them, as finance committee, printing committee, program committee. But though the name may imply in a general way the duties of such committees, it is necessary that these be clearly stated to obviate any misunderstanding. For instance, the duties of an auditing committee may be to examine all bills presented for payment, or to examine the books and vouchers of the treasurer at stated times.

The by-laws or rules of every association should provide for the manner of appointing standing committees, designate the number of members of which each must consist, and define their duties.

A common custom is for the newly elected president of a society to appoint all the standing committees.

This custom gives the president much power, but perhaps not too much. Having been elected by a majority vote of the assembly, if he have a policy to carry out it seems right that he should have the appointment of the committee on whose aid and co-operation he must rely. If, then, he has the power to appoint the standing committees, it is his privilege to appoint a majority on each committee of those who are in sympathy with his views. If two parties or factions exist, the rights of the minority demand that they should have representation on every committee.

A board of managers or directors is of the character of a standing committee, but its members are usually elected in the same manner as the officers. In the order of business, the report of such a board is generally the first under the head of reports of standing committees.

Special committees are those whose duties are temporary in character.

To provide for the appointment of a special committee, a motion should first be made that a committee be appointed, or that a pending motion be referred to a committee. The number composing the committee should next be determined, and then the manner of appointment.

The motion for a special committee may include the manner of appointment and the number of members which such a committee should contain, but it seems more natural to first vote upon the motion that a committee be appointed, for the reason that if this motion is decided in the negative there will be no occasion for considering the other motions.

After the number of which a committee is to be composed has been decided and the committee has been appointed, no additional names can be legally added.

Any member of a society, unless personally interested in the question to be considered by the committee, is eligible to appointment, but his obligation to serve is not a question of

parliamentary law. The member who has the welfare of the society at heart will be loath to shirk any of its responsibilities.

The president of a society is often made a member of every standing committee, sometimes a member of every committee, sometimes a member without the right to vote.

If the by-laws contain the clause, "The president shall be ex officio a member of all committees," the right to vote is granted. If it is intended that he be a member ex officio without the right to vote, the clause should read, "The president shall be ex officio a member of all committees, but without the right to vote."

The mistake is sometimes made of putting too much talent on one committee. An excellent music committee in a certain church consisted for years of two persons, one of whom was a good judge of music and the other did not know Old Hundred from Yankee Doodle, but, being conscious of his ignorance, he was willing to sanction whatever was suggested by the musical member. There was no lack of harmony on that committee nor in the music it provided for the church.

Another committee appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws was composed of three persons, any one of whom was entirely competent to perform the task. Fortunately, one declined to serve, but before the committee had prepared its report the two remaining members had ceased to be on friendly terms.

A committee appointed to act for the assembly in cases where a course of action has already been decided upon should be composed of those who are friendly to the measure.

The member who makes the motion that a special committee be appointed is usually named first upon the committee, but not of necessity.

The first member of a committee, either standing or special, is the temporary chairman, and should convene the committee, which may then elect its chairman.

It is so general a custom to appoint as chairman the person who made the motion for a committee or for the commitment of a motion, that a member who does not wish to serve in that capacity sometimes makes a motion to the effect that a committee be appointed of which he shall not be a member.

If power is given the presiding officer to make the appointment he may appoint the committee at once, or he may say, "The chair will appoint the committee later." If the committee is not appointed until after the close of the session, the secretary should be informed of the persons appointed, that their names may be entered on the record.

(To be continued.)

OPEN PARLIAMENT.

Conducted by Mrs. Etta H. Osgood.

How many amendments can be made to an amendment?

Just as many as can be thought of. The only restriction is that the proposed amendment must be germane to the motion or amendment it is proposed to amend. There can be but one amendment before the house at a time, but this amendment may also be amended. The presiding officer will see to it that a second amendment to the main question is not introduced under cover of an amendment to the amendment. The second amendment must amend the first amendment, not the main question, but after a vote has been taken on the amendment to the amendment, another amendment to the amendment may be proposed. Likewise, when the amendment to the main question has been voted on, another may be moved. To repeat: There may be before the house the main question, and amendment to it and an amendment to the amendment before any vote is had. An "amendment to the amendment to the amendment" is not allowed, but if the present observation lessons and gains continue it may be thought the human mind is capable of considering more than three things at a time. In putting the question the chair will call first for the vote on the amendment to the amendment. Then, if it carries, on the amendment as amended, and if that carries, then on the main question as amended, three votes being required. Should the amendment to the amendment be lost, the question would recur to the amendment. Should that be lost, the chair would say, "The question 'recurs to the main question,' restating it before calling for the vote. In the case of sums and times or filling blanks there is an apparent exception to the rule that there can be only the primary and secondary amendment before the house at a time. As many sums, times or names may be mentioned as there are people present. The vote is taken on the

longest time or the largest sum; names are taken in the order in which they were given, the secretary keeping a careful record.

If, according to the constitution of a club, "all matters of business should be read at two consecutive meetings before being acted on," would you count that laying the question on the table?

No. The motion to table is a dependent motion, used for the purpose of delay. It requires an independent motion and a majority vote to take from the table. Your constitution calls for the second reading at the next consecutive meeting.

When the chair states the motion, should she say, We shall vote on this at the next meeting; and at the next meeting should the president say, The unfinished business from last meeting is on, or how is the proper way to introduce the question. Please tell how the question should be left at the first meeting it is introduced and how it should be introduced at the second meeting, when a vote is to be taken on the question?

A good way would be to have the secretary read the article of the constitution prescribing the rule. At the second meeting the records would show what had been done at the previous meeting. When the item special assignments was reached the motions would come up for their second reading and passage in the order recorded by the secretary. The latter officer would have a list made out for the president, who would say: The following motions were made at the last meeting and received their first reading. The secretary will now give the second reading.

What would be done to a motion that had been amended at the first meeting (same case) and at the second meeting an amendment made to that amendment? What should the chair have done in regard to the last amendment?

If the amendment had been voted on the amendment to the amendment could not be made until the vote had been reconsidered. Amendments would not come under the provision of the constitution requiring two readings, as they are a part of the business already presented.

Should the chair ever bring up a question that is laid on the table?

A motion from the floor and a majority affirmative vote is necessary to take from the table. The chair could remind the members that certain matters were on the table that ought to receive attention if she thought it wise. As a rule it is better for the chair to arrange previously for some member to bring it up, that she may not seem to desire to be both "the chair" and "the floor."

Can a president divide a motion capable of division, or should she ask permission of the club or the maker of the motion, and in what words?

The division may be made by the chair if there is no objection. If the chair does not divide it, a member may move that the question be divided, which is put to vote and decided like any other question. The chair would say: "This question susceptible of division; if there is 'consent,' or 'no objection' we will vote upon the two sections separately." If there were objection it should be raised at once.

The constitution of our club (Art. 49) states our hour of adjournment to be 5.30. Shattuck, our parliamentary authority, says that in the case of a stated hour for adjournment, the time may be extended by an independent motion and vote. Must this be unanimous, as being the suspension of a rule?

The time of adjournment being a part of your constitution must come under suspension.

What should be done with a treasurer's report? Is it correct to move to accept it if the bills have not been audited?

It is incorrect, though frequently done by societies which ought to know better.

Is it ever correct to move to accept a treasurer's report? If so, when?

After the auditor's report has been read and accepted. The treasurer reports, then the auditor. The latter's report is affirmed, then the report of the treasurer.

Should bills be audited before or after they are paid?

Approved by the proper authority, paid and then audited. It is not customary for the auditor to report at any except the annual meeting. An auditor is often an outside person, or at least a member not on the executive board. In many societies, however, the auditor is a member of the executive.

May a member of a club, after presenting a motion, as did Senator Morgan in 1886, have at his own request the same laid upon the table? (P. 106, Cushing's Manual, Revised Edition, Art. 171).

Parliamentary law does not reveal any good and sufficient reason why a plain, every-day club woman has not all the rights and privileges of a U. S. senator, barring special rules that apply only to the body that makes them.

THE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT.

Mrs. Viola Price Franklin.

As the time now approaches for clubs to plan their programs for next year, we desire to urge a trial of university extension courses. Correspondence is solicited with every club that desires to pursue a systematic plan of study. It will put new life into any club to have its members brought into touch with current thought along the various lines of university work. So much has been said in this department about the advantages of this method over the desultory ones often employed by women's clubs, that further argument seems unnecessary. But May L. Cheney, secretary for University Extension, the University of California, says very pointedly on this subject: "In the course of a month the members may be called upon to listen to accounts of such widely divergent matters as 'The Building of a Battle Ship,' 'A Search for the North Pole,' 'India and Her People,' 'The Scientific Use of Hypnotism.' A serious case of mental dyspepsia must inevitably develop if any member attempts to give thorough study to the heterogeneous subjects contained in such a year's program. The defense of the system is that the members do not desire to do any work between lectures, and merely wish for the pleasure of an afternoon's entertainment, with such scraps of information as can be obtained in that way. University extension is not for that class of women of leisure who have no desire for systematic study. Its purpose is serious."

Mrs. Sara Hartman, editor of the Woman's Department in the San Francisco Evening Post, kindly sent us the article on "University Extension and Women's Clubs" contributed to her department by Mrs. May L. Cheney. The following extract from the same will be of interest to the readers of The Club Woman, since it gives an account of the progress of the movement in California:

"In England and in the Eastern States that have followed England's example in organizing University Extension classes, the expense is borne by the local circle, which engages the lecturer. In California, university extension has had a somewhat different development. The first lectures were given by members of the faculty of the State University, and the regents decided that no charge should be made for these lectures except in cases where there were heavy travelling expenses. As a matter of fact, most of the lectures given in the past nine years have been entirely free to the public. The majority of them have been given in the Mark Hopkins Institute of Art in San Francisco. This building being the property of the university furnishes a permanent home for the extension department in San Francisco. Lectures have also been given in Oakland, San Jose, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Cruz and Sacramento.

"The range of subjects is wide. The majority have been literary, but such subjects as 'The Glacial Epoch of California,' treated by Dr. Joseph LeConte; 'The Physiology of the Eye,' by Dr. D'Ancona; 'Physiography,' by Dr. Fairbanks, appear in the list. Written papers by members of the classes are not required, but the final examination is given that those who enter as students may receive certificates for the work done, which, in case the holder registers as a regular student at the university, will be counted as regular university credit toward a degree.

"Before leaving the subject of university extension, mention should be made of the agricultural meetings held through-

out the state under the direction of the department of agriculture of the University of California. These are as truly university extension work as the lectures given in San Francisco. Their object is to furnish a means of spreading abroad and practically applying the scientific knowledge gained at the university. Over a hundred meetings will be held this year under the direction of Professor Wickson and his assistants.

"This effort of the department of agriculture is due to the same feeling that prompted the University of Cambridge to organize the university extension movement, the feeling that 'the work of diffusing scientific knowledge and creating a desire for a higher and better intellectual and aesthetic life is no less important than the advance of scientific knowledge itself by original investigation and discovery.'"

"MAY L. CHENEY,
"Secretary for University Extension, University of California."

Mrs. Ella Adams Moore, who is such an enthusiastic worker in the university extension department of Chicago University, has received this year a number of letters inquiring about details in the formation and management of university extension classes. She has consented to return open answers to these through the columns of *The Club Woman*, and also to answer any questions which readers may care to put to her. We take pleasure in making this announcement, and hope our readers will take advantage of this excellent opportunity of finding out how to remove all difficulties in the way of organization. Mrs. Moore's wide experience in this work, to which she is devoting her life, gives assurance that her suggestions will be most helpful. Communications should be addressed to Mrs. Ella Adams Moore, Box 196, Faculty Exchange, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

SOME OPEN ANSWERS to Correspondents, by Mrs. Ella Adams Moore, Associate in English Literature, University of Chicago:

One lady writes from a town of six thousand inhabitants: "There is no club in our little city doing real literary work, and it seems very hard to interest the women in anything but society and church work. Personally, I should like very much to do some careful study, but feel that I cannot undertake the regular correspondence work alone, as a course is more expensive than I can afford. Can you suggest any way out of my difficulty?"

Your case is one of scores which come to my notice yearly. Yes, I think I can suggest something. It is that you look carefully over the list of your friends and acquaintances in your town and select the names of the eight or ten most likely to be interested in something besides "society or church work." Invite these to a meeting at your home to consider a plan for study for next winter. Before the date for the meeting, write to the university with which you are in closest touch for information in regard to its extension classes, correspondence courses, etc. Write to your friends in other cities who have had experience in conducting clubs for doing "real literary work" and get their suggestions. In a word, become thoroughly informed yourself as to what can be done and how it can be done. Then, when your friends meet, tell them how much you can accomplish in the year; wax enthusiastic, if you will, on the benefits of such work; then produce your documents and explain how you are to go to work to accomplish all these wonderful results. I have faith that you will succeed in interesting them.

A club member from a Chicago club writes: "Our club has been working in literature for several years, but now we feel that, as a club, we wish to do more thorough and effective work. Can you give us any information as to helps to be had from the University?"

The University of Chicago plans to furnish aid to the study clubs in three ways: First, through its Lecture-Study Department. A course in this department consists of six lectures. The number who may attend is unlimited. The fee is one hundred and twenty-five dollars for the course, with the expenses of the lecturer. Second, through its Class-Study Department. A course in this department consists of twelve lessons of two hours each; the number in each class is limited to thirty, and the fee for the course is one hundred dollars. Third, through its Club-Study Department. For information in regard to this department see the March issue of *The Club Woman*, University Extension Department. More detailed information may be secured by addressing the secretaries of the various departments.

A woman who is organizing a club asks: "What do you consider should be the number of members in order for a club to secure the best results from study?"

Never more than thirty, and usually the best results will be obtained with a number much smaller than that. As a general thing, the smaller the number in the class the greater is the freedom in discussion and the less friction in the management.

Still another letter: "Our club numbers twenty members, but of this number only four or five care to do any real study. We—the four or five—should like to do some definite, careful work next year, but the rest of the club will not consent to undertake anything which involves much study."

Why not form a little class of the four or five elect, and then accomplish so much that others, "seeing your good work," will be constrained to join in it next year?

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION NEWS.

Prof. Richard G. Moulton of the University of Chicago continues as popular as ever. He has given a great number of extension courses during the past year, and has many engagements already made for next year.

Dr. Oscar L. Triggs, of the same university, is giving a course in the "Modern Drama" before a small study club in Hyde Park, Chicago.

A class from the Arche Club of Chicago is studying American Literature under the direction of Mrs. Porter L. MacClintock of the University of Chicago.

The Stevan University Extension Club of Chicago is entering upon its sixth term's work, under the direction of Mrs. Ella Adams Moore of the Department of English in the University of Chicago. Their work this year is in Modern American Literature.

Mrs. Moore has recently planned an interesting course in the poetry of Robert Browning for the Woman's Club of Helena, Montana.

Mr. F. G. Franklin, instructor in American History, the University of Nebraska, recently lectured on "The Discovery of America" before the Lincoln Woman's Club.

CLUB STUDY DEPARTMENT.

May Alden Ward.

MODERN RUSSIA.

1. The Country.
 1. Its Extent, Boundaries and Physical Features.
 2. The Birth of the Empire.
 3. Introduction of Christianity.
 4. Origin of the Russian Greek Church.
2. The People.
 1. Cossacks, Mongols and Tartars.
 2. The Conquered Races of the Western Frontier.
 3. Character of the Ruling Classes.
 4. Condition of the Peasantry.
3. The Old Capital, Moscow.
 1. The Muscovite City.
 2. Origin, History, Influence.
 3. The Kremlin.
4. Peter the Great. 1689-1725.
 1. Personality and Character.
 2. Attempt to Make Russia European Instead of Asiatic.
 3. Various Reforms.
 4. War with Charles XII.
5. St. Petersburg, the New Capital.
 1. Origin and Situation.
 2. Its Architectural Features.
6. Women Rulers.
 1. Catherine I.
 2. Anne.
 3. Elizabeth.
7. Catherine II.
 1. Character and Policy of Catherine the Great.
 2. Relations with France.
 3. Partition of Poland.
 4. Extension of Russian Territory.
 5. Her Son, "Paul, the Madman."

8. Alexander I.
 1. Joins the Allies Against France.
 2. Makes League with Napoleon.
 3. Napoleon Invades Russia.
9. Nicholas I.
 1. How He Came to the Throne.—Constantine.
 2. Polish Insurrection.
 3. Crimean War.
10. Alexander II.
 1. Emancipation of the Serfs.
 2. The Mir and the Zemstvo.
 3. Russia in European Politics.
11. Nihilism.
 1. Origin of the Nihilists.
 2. Their Causes of Complaint.
 3. Strength of the Organization.
 4. Plots Against the Czar's Life.
12. Alexander III. "One Law, One Religion, One Race."
 1. Race Persecutions.
 - Laws Against the Jews.
 - Sorrows of Finland.
 - Poles and Germans.
13. Religious Persecutions.
 - Roman Catholics.
 - Lutherans and Stundists.
 - Doukhobers and Other Sects.
15. Educational System of Russia.
 1. The Universities.
 2. Present Policy of the Empire in Regard to Education.
 3. Teachings of the Priests.
14. Some Russian Novelists and Their Political Influence.
 1. Gogol.
 2. Dostoyevsky.
 3. Turgeneff.
 4. Tolstoi.
16. The Russian Government.
 1. Absolute Monarchy. Executive, Legislative and Judicial Functions All United in the Czar. The Czar is the State.
 2. Czar the Head of the Church.
 3. Bureaucratic Policy.
17. Penal System.
 1. Siberia.—Exiles.
 2. Russian Prisons.
 3. Russian Police.
18. Nicholas II.
 1. Character of the Present Czar.
 2. The Peace Proclamation.
 3. Influence in European Politics.

LIST OF AUTHORITIES.

- History of Russia, by Leroy Beaulieu, 3 vols.
 History of Russia, by Alfred Rambaud.
 Russians and Germans, by Victor Tissot.
 Modern Russia, by Julius Eckardt.
 Russia, by D. Mackenzie Wallace, 2 vols.
 History of Peter the Great, by Schuyler.
 Memoirs of Catherine II.
 Crimean War, by Kinglake.
 Memoirs of Madame Swetchine.
 Fathers and Sons; Lisa; Smoke, by Turgeneff.
 Russia Before Europe, by Alfred Austin.
 Russian Politics, by Herbert M. Thomson.
 Pictures of Russian History and Russian Literature, by Prince Serge Wolkonsky.
 Russian Traits and Terrors, by E. B. Lanier.
 The Russian Storm Cloud; King Stork and King Log;
 The Russian Peasantry, by Stepniak.
 Siberia and the Exile System, by George Kennan.
 Slav or Saxon, by William D. Foulke.
 Tales from the Dead House; Humiliated and Offended;
 Crime and Punishment; The Brothers Karamazov, by Dostoyevsky.
 War and Peace; Anne Karenina; My Confession; My Religion, by Tolstoi.
 What to Do, by Tolstoi.
 Russia Under Alexander III, by S. Hammelstierna.
 Young Folks' History of Russia, by Nathan Haskell Dole.
 Studies in Russia, by A. J. C. Hare.
 Studies in Russian Literature, C. E. Turner.
 Russian Novelists, by E. M. de Vogue.

Great Masters of Russian Literature in the 19th Century, by E. Dupuy.
 Russia and Turkey in the 19th Century, by E. W. Latimer.

For list of books on Russia that can be borrowed, write to the Anna Ticknor Library Association, Trinity Court, Boston.

Questions concerning club study, methods, authorities, etc., will be answered in this department. Communications should be addressed to Mrs. May Alden Ward, 62 Kirkland Street, Cambridge, Mass.

We have prepared, very carefully, the list of books for club study advertised by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. in this number, for the purpose of helping clubs to make selections, either for study in classes or for supplementary reading; and we would urge especially that program and class committees will look over this advertisement and send for the handsome illustrated catalogue before making up their lists for the coming season. Please mention *The Club Woman* when you write, either for text-books or catalogue.

SUGGESTIONS.

At the recent First District Convention, held in Beloit, Wis., Mrs. M. Wentworth Hopper suggested the following questions for discussion. They are worth consideration in every club:

How does a lack of knowledge of parliamentary law affect the business of a club?

How does this lack affect the social life of a club?

Should the few who have some knowledge of parliamentary law refrain from using that knowledge because others in the club are without it?

If so, why?

How do business men gain their knowledge of parliamentary law?

Do they ever suffer from lack of it—in common council, board of education, etc.?

What effect does a study of parliamentary law have upon the mind of the student?

Is there any study which tends more directly to develop a logical mind?

Should it be regarded as a study for such women only as intend taking an active part in clubs or other organizations?

A good many bright things were said at the convention, says Zona Gale in the *Evening Wisconsin*, some of them worth remembering. Among them were:

Suggestion for a club motto: "From each as she has power to give; to each as she has need."

"When every woman rises to her opportunity, the world will be purified."

"We even hope to get to that point in the study of parliamentary law that we may see our pet measure lost without feeling any personal inconvenience. Most men learn parliamentary law from women who are club members!"

Miss Grace Louise Phillips of the Lenox Library in New York city has started what she considers a new occupation for women, as she says no other one, to her knowledge, is in the business. She gets data for club women who are asked to read abstruse papers before their respective associations, and have neither the time nor the ability to hunt up facts for themselves. We cordially recommend the scheme to those of our readers who have need of any such assistance.

General Federation of Women's Clubs.

LIST OF OFFICERS:

President,
MRS. WILLIAM B. LOWE,
 513 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Ga.
Vice-President,
MRS. SARAH S. PLATT,
 Hotel Metropole, Denver, Colo.

Recording Secretary,
MRS. EMMA A. FOX,
 21 Bagley Avenue, Detroit, Mich.
Corresponding Secretary,
MRS. G. W. KENDRICK, Jr.,
 3507 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Treasurer,
MRS. PHILIP N. MOORE,
 1520 Mississippi Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.
Auditor,
MRS. C. P. BARNES,
 1026 3rd Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky.

THE GENERAL FEDERATION.



Mrs. Lowe and Mrs. Platt, president and vice-president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, will meet in Milwaukee the last week in May to talk over with the local board the arrangements for the next Biennial, which will convene in that city in 1900.

At the same time there will be a board meeting, called to settle some executive business matters. After the meeting Mrs. Lowe and Mrs. Platt will visit several State Federations, which have invited them to come in the interests of the General Federation.

In response to several requests we reprint the following amendments to the bylaws, which were made at Denver in June, 1898.

REPRESENTATION.

Article I, Section 8.—Each federated club of fifty members or less shall be entitled to be represented by its president or her appointee only.

Each club between fifty and one hundred members shall be entitled to be represented by its president or her appointee and one delegate.

For each additional one hundred members or a fraction thereof, a club shall be entitled to one additional delegate.

The minimum representation of each State Federation shall be five delegates.

Each State Federation of over twenty-five clubs shall be entitled to one additional delegate for every twenty-five clubs or majority fraction thereof.

DUES.

Article III., Section 7.—The annual dues for clubs shall be at the rate of ten cents per capita.

The annual dues for State Federations shall be at the rate of twenty-five cents per club.

Dues shall be paid annually the first of May, beginning with 1900.

It is pretty well known among club women, we believe, that the G. F. W. C. has adopted as its patriotic song, "March On, Brave Lads, March On." This song was adopted by the General Federation at Denver, July 27, 1898. It has the distinction of being the only war song in the world written (words and music) by women and adopted by women. In the introduction the left hand plays "Dixie," the right hand "Yankee Doodle," and both airs are joined in the song itself. The words were written by Miss Anna J. Hamilton of Louisville, Ky., and it was sung at the Biennial with great success by Miss Anita Muldoon, who contributed so much to the program at Denver. The song can be had of Miss Hamilton, at 723 Third Ave., Louisville, Ky.

The relation of State and General Federations, which has been so ably discussed for several months in our "President's Corner," is engaging the attention of thousands of club women all over the country. Indeed, the Worcester Woman's Club, one of the largest Massachusetts clubs, has seen fit to take action with regard to it. A letter has been sent to the State Committee of Correspondence containing several suggestions.

First, That the State Committee of Correspondence find out the opinions of the other clubs in Massachusetts on the question of reorganization of the General Federation, and ascertain their willingness to withdraw from membership in the present organization if such action seems necessary.

Second, That the State Committee of Correspondence find out the opinions of other clubs in other states in regard to the matter.

Third, That the committee recommend to the General Federation representation by State Federation only.

The concluding clause declares that the Worcester Woman's Club stands ready to relinquish membership in the General Federation whenever such action seems necessary to facilitate the reorganization of the General Federation so as to include only State Federations.

This letter was drawn up for the club by a committee composed of Miss Henshaw, Mrs. C. C. Baldwin and Mrs. H. I. Comins.

A meeting of the Massachusetts State Committee of Correspondence was held March 17, to consider this letter from the Worcester club. The result was the following letter:

Mrs. Carrie S. Ward, Secretary of the Worcester Woman's Club:

Dear Madam,—The resolutions submitted by the Worcester Woman's Club have been carefully considered by this committee, and we would say in reply that while we recognize your right to advocate a reform which you believe will strengthen the General Federation, and be helpful in conducting its affairs, yet the change you propose is a constitutional one, and can be acted on only at the Biennial of 1900. An opportunity for you to bring these resolutions before the officers and presidents of clubs for discussion will be given at the Council meeting to be held in Philadelphia, June 1, 2 and 3 next. Would it not seem more loyal to the General Federation to present these resolutions at this meeting, especially appointed for counsel and co-operation, and there ascertain the wishes of the majority?

The members of this committee have the interest of the General Federation so much at heart that they deprecate the last paragraph of your resolutions, and they can but feel that any reform you desire to inaugurate can be more easily brought about by remaining a member of the organization than by relinquishing your membership, and thereby losing your ballot, which is the medium through which all the reforms must come. Your resolutions are herewith returned.—Anna D. West, chairman; Mrs. May Alden Ward, Mrs. Ella L. T. Baldwin, Mrs. Harriet A. Bean.

The episode is not without interest for every part of the country, and all club women will be watching for the outcome.

"For many months I have been intending to write and express my appreciation of The Club Woman, but my time is so completely occupied that I find little leisure for even necessary correspondence. I know, however, that a word of commendation never comes amiss to those who are striving to please in the field of journalism. All who take The Club Woman here are well pleased with it, and I think you will find the number of subscribers increasing from this time on, so many have said to me, 'Oh, I mean to subscribe for it, but I neglect it constantly.' As an officer of the State Teachers' Association on the one hand and a member of the Educational Committee of the State Federation on the other (I see that against my will I have expressed myself as if I approved of a distinction, when I do not), I am especially interested in those articles relating to the co-operation of the various lines of education, and I hope to see much more along the same line. We have not yet accomplished much of what we hope for here in the cause of education, but we are full of enthusiasm, and we hope to see the day soon when teachers and club women will learn that their work is together."—Mrs. Don R. Coray, Ogden, Utah.

STATE FEDERATION NEWS.

MASSACHUSETTS.

AT the invitation of the Fitchburg Woman's Club the regular quarterly meeting of the State Federation will be held in the Unitarian Church at Fitchburg, on Thursday, April 6, which all members of the clubs forming the State Federation may attend. The program will be as follows:

Morning Session. 11 A. M.—Subject, "The Domestic Problem." Introduction by the Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Caroline Stone Atherton. "The Domestic Situation To-Day." Speaker to be announced later. "A Readjustment of Household Expenditures." Mrs. Ellen H. Richards, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Discussion till 12.45.

Afternoon Session. 2 P. M.—Presentation of New Clubs: Anna Ticknor Library Association, Ayer Woman's Club, Brockton Woman's Club, Littleton Woman's Club, New England Bradford Academy Club, Quinshipaug Woman's Club, Riverside Club. "A Possible Solution of the Domestic Problem." Mrs. Alice N. George. "The Relation of the Domestic Problem to the Present Industrial Situation." Professor Edward Cummings, Harvard University. Discussion.

Following is the circular just issued by the Committee on Social Service. Although it is long, we reprint the whole of it, as we believe it contains many suggestions which will be of direct value to other Federations; and also because, we believe, it is the first state circular to be issued under the new Sociological Department of the G. F. W. C.:

There are indications that many federated clubs feel the obligation of supplementing self-education by reaching out for the larger human interests in their respective communities. Certain clubs are already developing work of educational or sociological importance. The following suggestions are offered in the hope of bringing all the clubs into more vital relations with social problems, human needs, and a more beautiful environment. We recognize that conditions in a large city, a factory town, or a rural community, are essentially different. The good judgment of each club can be relied on to seize upon its own special opportunities.

Care should be taken to understand thoroughly the local situation; to aid established, specialized organizations instead of duplicating endeavors; to gain the sympathy and co-operation of officials (school committee, selectmen, etc.), wherever possible; to secure local specialists for conference and moral support; to be constructive rather than destructive; and to win the respect of the community by deliberate, well-chosen, consecutive effort to attain a clearly defined aim.

These efforts, while they should mean great good to the community, and are a demonstration of the splendid power of co-operation, are also valuable for the individual enrichment which results.

It is generally conceded that industrial laws in Massachusetts are not only the best of all the States, but are also wisely and thoroughly enforced. Nearly all the sweat-shops have been driven out of the Commonwealth. Our State Federation finds already done much of the work so imperatively demanded of the Industrial Committees of other State Federations. This evidence of the advanced and intelligent public opinion which has demanded this status is very gratifying. But it does not justify the Massachusetts clubs in

"The unlit lamp and the ungirt loin."

INVESTIGATION.

Probably nothing would deepen the sympathies and broaden the intelligence of club women like understanding the conditions around them.

If the work were well laid out by an experienced person, a club might conduct an investigation into the industrial, economic, educational, racial, and religious conditions of the whole population, as well as those in the tenement districts, and also the means of relief by charities (public and private), by churches or other organizations. Manufacturing towns are special fields for this work. Considerable information is already available at the State House.

To be of sociological value, investigations should be accurate, systematic, thorough, long continued, carefully tabulated, and then given to a trained statistician for topical analysis.

Any club willing to undertake so difficult a task is requested to confer with this committee.

THE CONSUMERS' LEAGUE.

There was a most gratifying response to our former circular interesting the clubs in the Massachusetts Consumers' League. A few federated clubs have not yet devoted a session to its consideration. But several clubs have felt the economic and moral value of the work, and become responsible for establishing local branches of the League. Large numbers of club women have enrolled as individual members. Both means of helpfulness are earnestly recommended by the Federation.

Believing that many wish to go a step further, we have asked the League to print a special circular, giving definite instructions for the practical work of investigation. Herein lies a great opportunity.

THE STATE LAWS.

The State officials have kindly promised to print a special edition of the laws relating to women and children in industry, for the use of clubs in our State Federation. As several bills are now pending which may affect the conditions, these laws will not be printed until after the legislature adjourns. A copy will be sent to each club before the first meeting next autumn. The clubs are requested to devote one or more sessions to reading and discussing these laws.

A SHORTER WORK-DAY.

Among the resolutions adopted by the General Federation of Women's Clubs at Denver is the following:—

Resolved, fourth, That in mill, factory, workshop, laundry, and mercantile establishments, the maximum working-day for women and children shall not exceed eight hours, or forty-eight hours per week.

We ask each club to find out the State laws relating to hours of labor, and the bills bearing on this question which are before the legislature. If, after investigation, the clubs believe a shorter work-day to be desirable for the general welfare, they should assume the duty of influencing legislation to secure it.

A club could gain interesting and valuable information by having a special committee to report, quarterly, on the bills relating to labor which are pending at the State House.

This committee should also take cognizance of similar measures in Congress. This work is in harmony with another resolution adopted at the Biennial:—

Resolved, fifth, That, so far as possible, uniform labor legislation shall be secured throughout the different States.

The bills now in the hands of Congressional committees would make an excellent basis for study on the industrial situation.

The Committee on Social Service recognizes the intimate relation between the present industrial problem and the appalling need of training the young to use their hands as a means to gainful occupations. Manual training for girls as well as boys, when universally given through the country, can hardly fail to reduce the great army of the unskilled. We therefore urge the clubs to co-operate with the Education Committee of the State Federation, when it presents its plan for establishing vacation schools with manual training for boys and girls.

CHILD LABOR.

"No child under thirteen years of age shall be employed at any time in any factory, workshop, or mercantile establishment," reads the Massachusetts law governing child labor. Legislation is pending, however, in favor of making the age limit fourteen years instead of thirteen; and club women are urged to use their influence with legislators to secure the passage of a measure, which shall mean one year more of preparation to the child, who is ill enough fitted at the age of fourteen to join the vast army of wage-earners.

It is believed that there are cases in every community, beyond the knowledge of the truant-officer, where the parents are indifferent about the children's schooling, or where great poverty or shiftlessness makes the need of the child's possible earnings excuse for misrepresenting the age to employer or teacher, and the boy or girl is put to work and robbed of the advantages the State tries to afford him or her.

Is not your club ready to hunt up these children in your community, and to report to the proper authorities? For it is to be remembered that the club's best effort lies in co-operation with those who are empowered to act rather than in an attempt to right any wrong alone and unauthorized. You will

not only help the child by securing to him what is legally his due; but, in bringing him one step nearer skilled labor and consequent higher wages, you will lighten the community's burden of poverty and contribute toward the solution of the whole industrial problem.

THE CURFEW BELL.

The attention of the clubs is called to the ordinance of the curfew, as it has been introduced in certain cities and towns of the Commonwealth. Good examples of this ordinance may be obtained by sending to the City Hall in Cambridge or Newton. Word comes of the wonderful success of the measure, where it is being enforced, in sending flying home, just before the fatal hour, the members of the various sidewalk gangs of children that menace the peace of the community. Such a means of preventing the mischief that is brewed on the street corner, and of saving the boys and girls from themselves, deserves the serious consideration of all who see what those children may become if left to themselves. What can club women do about it?

POSTAL SAVINGS-BANKS.

There is a bill before Congress to establish national postal savings-banks, which are especially needed in the South and West and in isolated small villages all over the country. This bill is modelled on the English plan, so that deposits, large or small, made at a post-office, can be drawn instantly on presenting the receipt at a post-office anywhere in the United States. Congress is waiting for pressure of public opinion before passing this law. To this end, the women of Massachusetts clubs are asked to interest the men in their communities, and to influence the senators and representatives from our Commonwealth, either by petition or personal appeal.

STAMP SAVINGS SOCIETY.

Time is necessary to put the postal banks in operation, but clubs may wisely aid the thrift movement by establishing local stations of the Massachusetts Stamp Savings Society.

This system of receipts for small savings, by colored stamps, involves no expense. The society supplies the material, and will refund the money advanced for stamps. School-houses could be secured for stations; and the work of receiving deposits, for one hour weekly, may be shared by club members. Not only should every school district have a station, but a central place should be provided for Saturday nights, to encourage small wage-earners. The teaching of thrift tends to lessen the destitution and poverty which underlie many of the great social problems.

VESTIBULE STREET-CARS.

Every woman has sympathy for the motormen and conductors of our street-cars, as they stand for hours, unprotected, facing the fierce and stinging snows of our rigorous climate.

There is a bill before the present legislature to compel all street-car corporations to provide vestibule cars, such as are used in many localities. These give, not only protection to the men, but prevent the cold drafts and gusts of dust which annoy passengers whenever a door opens.

The clubs are urged to influence the representatives from their communities to vote for this bill. The matter demands immediate attention, or it may be too late.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT.

The clubs, especially in the smaller towns, are asked to actively aid in beautifying their localities. One means, simple, inexpensive, and enjoyable, is the annual celebration of Arbor Day. The proper authorities could assign a street or roadway on which six trees should be planted every year. Future generations may gratefully recognize it at "The Woman's Club Row." The annual tree-planting could be a field-day, with appropriate ceremonies of speeches, poems, etc. This experiment might prove an example to the schools.

By applying to the United States Department of the Interior, at Washington, a pamphlet may be obtained free, which gives full particulars about trees, time, methods, etc. This shows the importance which the government attaches to Arbor Day. If there is a local Village Improvement Society, secure its co-operation.

To develop the aesthetic, a public-spirited club might offer a prize to the school which, within a given time, would produce the most beautiful school-yard. The club might give helpful hints for flower-beds, shrubbery, the hiding of ugly brick walls with vines, and screening out-houses with greenery. The prize could be awarded by a vote of the club; and it might be well to stipulate that the prize-money should be expended for picture or cast, as a permanent adornment of the winning school.

A winter prize might also be offered for the most success-

ful school window-boxes. Whatever brings club and school into closer relations helps both.

The clubs are asked to use their influence: (1) toward reclaiming ugly spots, such as dumping-grounds, cellar-holes, etc.; (2) to utilize and preserve, in the interest of beauty, any special natural features, such as a grove, cliff, river, pond, brook, or beach; (3) to prevent the improper cutting down of trees, and to secure judicious pruning and thinning out; and (4) to strenuously oppose the disfigurement of landscape and highway by advertisements.

A sagacious club will strive for the co-operation of officials and influential citizens, and win the confidence and sympathy of the public by getting advice from an expert in landscape gardening. Any work of this kind requires great tact not to antagonize officials and land-owners, to whom the strongest argument may be that of increased valuation.

THE CATERPILLAR PEST.

A few women of public spirit, in certain Massachusetts towns, have used the children as exterminators of the gypsy moth. They offered ten cents a hundred for the little nests, or cocoons. The two children securing the two largest numbers also received prizes of five and three dollars. Many poor children earned money that they needed, and the ravages of the caterpillars were checked. Clubs in towns afflicted with these pests might imitate this success. By writing to Professor Fernald, State Agricultural College, Amherst, they may obtain instructions as to methods, time, burning of nests, etc.

FOR STUDY OF READING.

This committee recommends the following books for a brief study on the general subject of social conditions:—

English Social Movements. Robert A. Woods.
Industrial Evolution of the United States. Carroll D. Wright.

Social Theory: A Grouping of Social Facts and Principles. John Bascom.

The Social Horizon. Published by Scribner.
Faith and Social Service. Rev. George Hodges, D. D.
Philanthropy and Social Progress. Published by Crowell.

Unto this Last. John Ruskin.
How the Other Half Lives. Jacob A. Riis.
The Workers in the East. The Workers in the West. Professor Walter Wyckoff.

The City Wilderness. Robert A. Woods.

Women's Work. Lady Dilke.

Clubs intending to study thoroughly any branch of sociology or economics are referred to the Anna Ticknor Library Association for specialized lists of books. These lists are ten cents per copy; and the books may be obtained by mail, at the rate of two cents a day for each book and return postage. Address, Trinity Court, Boston.

Clubs wishing to use any topics designated in this circular, on "Home Talent" days, may be glad to know that many of them are briefly, but admirably treated in the Leaflets issued by the League for Social Service, 105 East 22d Street, New York City. They may also be obtained at Woman's Educational and Industrial Union, 264 Boylston Street, Boston. Lists sent free on application.

Among the publications of the Church Social Union are many well-written pamphlets (10 cents each) on industrial, sociological, and educational matters, especially those from numbers 25 to 48, and in Series B. Apply for list to No. 1 Joy Street, Boston.

N.B.—To incorporate these suggestions into practical work, each club is urged to assign the various subdivisions to committees and to hold the chairmen responsible for definite reports of their action.

Certain lines of this work, which need the interest and co-operation of the whole community, might be forwarded by a wise setting forth of the subject in the local newspapers. To this end the various committees might formulate their gathered information; and, after receiving the indorsement of the club, it could be given to local journals. This would help to enlist public sympathy before undertaking the work.

The clubs are hereby notified that in due time this committee will send circulars of inquiry as to what parts of the above work have been undertaken by each club.

"Opportunities are commands."

Miss O. M. E. Rowe, Chairman.
Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer,
Mrs. Caroline Stone Atherton,
Mrs. Alice Buswell Towle,
Committee on Social Service.

PENNSYLVANIA.

At a meeting of the delegates to the Federation of Women's Clubs of Pennsylvania, held in Chester, Pa., November, 1898, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to organize a Federation Traveling Club."

Some of the reasons which led to the unanimous adoption of that resolution were these:

Our members are sufficiently well read and experienced to appreciate the advantages of foreign travel; it gives broader ideas of people and things, a wider mental horizon, an ability to read history in a new light and with greater pleasure; it furnishes a healthy and most enjoyable relaxation from usual cares, and gives a certain variety of education that can be obtained in no other way. Many members who have long desired a trip abroad have been hindered by a lack of definite and reliable information as to routes, accommodations, and expenses; many have been deterred by a lack of suitable companionship. Those who have contemplated joining organized parties have found many tours to be of so expensive a character as to be suited for millionaires only; they have found other tours to be planned on a basis so economical as to be miserly, lacking many comforts to which our members are accustomed in daily life; or what is more frequent, they have found that the route of travel did not include many places which there was an eager desire to visit.

There was a desire for the co-operation of members to secure comfort, proper companionship, a reduction in living expenses while abroad, and a reduction in transportation. What co-operation can do in such respects was amply illustrated by the journeys to and from Denver last June when the National Federation met there. The delegates who had the advantage of co-operation, rode in through cars luxuriously fitted and had agreeable companionship; yet their expenses were less than the expenses of those who without the advantage of co-operation made their trips as individuals.

Pursuant to the above-mentioned resolution, a committee is to organize a Federation Traveling Club. As its first effort this committee has arranged for a tour abroad which it deems well adapted to the needs of a Federation club. On this tour a great diversity of tastes can be gratified, not only in respect to the countries to be visited, but also in respect to the character of the accommodations. One will have an opportunity to make the tour luxuriously, moderately or economically, the cost varying according to the character of the accommodations and the route selected, and the number who join the club.

WISCONSIN.

The first district convention at Beloit, Wis., was one of the most encouraging of the experimental district conventions, held this year and last, in the state. It was so successful, indeed, that the dates have been set for two others in April—one at Antigo and one at Green Bay. The whole spirit of the convention was an echo of what was so noticeable at La Crosse: that in Wisconsin the purely literary club is dying, and that no club feels itself at its best until it is doing work for others.

More than 125 women were present, as delegates and visitors, at Beloit, and they were royally welcomed. They were all entertained at the homes of the local members, and on Wednesday evening they were provided with a luncheon in the chapel of the church, the tables dainty with shaded candelabra and smilax. All these were incidentals, but they counted. The only question that arose was whether the smaller towns, who could not entertain so well as the Beloit clubs did, would feel that they could extend a welcome to the club women of the district in turn.

The day's program was an extremely interesting one. The difference between district and state conventions of a year ago was demonstrated actively by the fact that the program did not consist alone of isolated papers on club work. Club women have such common interests now that there was a special discussion to be the center of all discussions. This was on the memorializing of the legislature to enlarge the State Board of Control to include two women members. It has already been done, as was decided at the state convention a year ago last October and ratified last November at this year's state meeting. A formal vote was taken upon the matter by the district and was endorsed. Action by the legislature has not yet been taken.

Mrs. A. C. Neville, president of the Federation, was not present on account of illness, and so her discussion upon the

bill, which was to have had place in the afternoon, was not given. She was to have spoken in the evening upon the subject about which she has written so successfully: "The Influence of the French in the Fox River Valley." It is delightful to have a woman for president who has something for special study besides clubs which she is able to talk about intelligently. Wisconsin has been fortunate in this in both its presidents.

Mrs. George H. Hopper, district vice-president, presided, and opened the convention with a strong and earnest talk, filled with suggestions for the coming year. After the address of welcome by Mrs. Aldrich, the morning was given to reports of the clubs in the district, reports being read from Whitewater, Racine, Evansville, Darlington, Burlington, Delavan, Kenosha and Waukegan. Every one showed some outside work begun along library or village and town improvement or farmers' rest room lines. The village and town improvement is made a special object of by the Federation this year, and a committee reported on this in the afternoon, showing no small progress, from town clocks to cemetery improvement. The committee on art in public schoolrooms, reported by Mrs. A. E. Tanberg of Janesville, and Mrs. Lou Dean of Whitewater gave a most interesting talk on "Injurious Effects of Education in the Public Schools for Girls." Mrs. E. F. Hanson gave the report of the library committee, showing the continued sending of books to country districts. Mrs. C. F. Osborne of Darlington talked on "Village and Town Improvement." In the evening Mrs. Sleeper of Beloit gave some readings from Rosetti. There was music and a talk by Mrs. Hopper to take the place of the one by Mrs. Neville.

The convention adjourned at 5 o'clock to the Beloit College Chapel, where regular chapel exercises of the college were visited. Afterward an informal reception and supper followed at the church.

GEORGIA.

The club spirit is abroad in the land.

The number of clubs organized in Georgia in the coming year will be limited only by the physical endurance of the Club Extension Committee and Federation officers, who are each and every one working faithfully and well.

Many of the Western papers during the Denver Biennial remarked upon the enthusiasm of the Georgia delegation and their firm conviction that a Southern president would bring the General Federation work so near that the South would awake to the benefits to be derived from co-operation through club life.

They were quoted as saying: "Give us a Southern president and we will show you what we can do."

And did they so speak right loyally—are they one and all living up to their pledges?

The president of the State Federation, Mrs. J. Lindsay Johnson, has just returned from a tour of the clubs and reports enthusiasm and earnestness all along the line. From the newspaper reports describing the crowded club meetings and elegant social functions given in her honor it would seem that one city vied with the other in giving her an ovation.

In a recent edition of the Georgia official organ it was said that in every town where there was but one federated club before the visit of the president there are now two or three. And it is the town and country clubs of which the officers of the Georgia Federation are so proud, as in a sparsely settled section the women pass such monotonous lives. There, where variety can only come through their own exertions, assisted by friendly club women, they are forming clubs for mutual benefit.

Fortunate indeed is the Federation in having as president a woman of whom it is said by country people, "We can get near her," as that very feeling of aloofness is what makes the country woman's life so lonely. When able to go to town, she fears to do it, feeling she will be alone in a crowd.

Happy will be the day when the Georgia clubs can see their way clear to the carrying out of their long desired plan for establishing rest rooms, in which will always be found some one ready and willing to give a warm welcome to the tired club sister from the country.

From this will arise a community of interests which will be invaluable in surmounting the barrier which now exists between country and city.

It will be worth while for any club woman to read the advertisement, on another page, of Mrs. Shattuck's Woman's Manual of Parliamentary Law.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

In Charleston, S. C., is to be found the oldest woman's club or society in the South. The Ladies' Benevolent Association was founded in 1813 and was incorporated in the following year, the names on application for charter being: Mrs. A. E. Mitchell, Mrs. Ferguson and Miss Hannah Drayton. This society was organized for the purpose of aiding the laboring classes during illness and enforced convalescence. Being entirely undenominational, members from all churches are to be found on its roll. From its annals we see in the long years of its existence record of a long list of noble deeds and benefactions of these brave and earnest women who have stood together through the trials of war, pestilence and calamity, and their last annual report shows an unflagging zeal and enthusiasm unabated. According to the Year Book, between the years 1832 and 1861 this society owned interest-bearing property that afforded an income of \$4000. A notable gift to this fund was one of \$500 from Jenny Lind, at the time of her visit as prima donna to Charleston in 1835. In the general upheaval and change consequent upon war and other reverses the funds of the society are reduced to a comparatively small amount, but the work goes on without a decrease of interest; but on the other hand new work is added each year. The membership is undaunted, and in various ways, such as giving entertainments, etc., the necessary funds are raised and the work goes on.

In 1835 the Hopkins fund was bequeathed in trust by a citizen of Charleston to this society for the benefit of aged and infirm free persons of color. The society endeavors to keep up this work, but are hampered for want of funds, as the original bequest is now very small and entirely inadequate to the calls, which are many and insistent. Miss C. P. Ravenel is president, Miss May Poppenhiem secretary for 1899. Charleston club women are earnest workers, and we find seven well organized woman's clubs in the city. The Century Club, an up-to-date, purely literary club, joined the State Federation last June. During the past month three others have applied for membership, viz.: Kelly Alumnae Free Kindergarten Association, Memminger Alumnae, a department club, having music, art and literature sections; Psychology and Child Study Club. The South Carolina Kindergarten Association and Charleston Art Club are composed of women, and we hope to have them in co-operation by our next convention.—Mrs. M. W. Coleman.

MISSISSIPPI.

The Mississippi Federation, organized last May, will hold a meeting in Meridian in April. Mrs. Albert G. Weems, the brilliant young president, is also president of the Fortnightly Club of Meridian, the oldest literary club of the state. Mrs. Hala H. Butt, the vice-president, is one of Mississippi's most progressive women, and is president of the Equal Suffrage Society of Clarksdale. Mrs. W. P. Mills, the recording secretary, is president of the Nineteenth Century Club of Kosciusko, and the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Josie Frazee Cappleman of Okolona, is one of the South's well-known literary women.

"I am wholly dependent upon The Club Woman. Being 'clubbed' to death is rather a pleasant sensation when one is privileged to take liberal doses of the reliable and regular tonic dealt out by The Club Woman," writes a subscriber. "I had hoped to send other subscriptions with my own. Doubtless they will come later, as, after permitting several 'bites at the cherry,' I shall not be so free hereafter in loaning my numbers. Some people take all the good things they can get for nothing." Here is a hint worth the consideration of other friends of The Club Woman.

From Enterprise, Kansas, comes the following: Your paper quite meets my ideal of a club paper. A friend and I take it together, and I feel after three months reading it, that I want it all the time for consultation in club work. Personally, I keep in touch with the club work in the state, and here in this wee village we have a very active club, the "As You Like It." We are an evolution from the old "Chautauqua Circle," through the "Union for Practical Progress," and finally to this "As You Like It," with slight variation of leading spirits. This year we have studied Hugo's "Shakespeare," with additional literature each week. I have tried to get up an interest in tree planting and municipal improvement generally, which I hope to see bear practical fruit in the spring. Our studies have proven fruitful in the unfolding of the inner and broader life and to the extinction of small vanities which are the bane of the village club. The Columbian Club of Abilene (the county seat) was organized before the World's Fair, and has continued meeting once a month since. History and literature keep the twenty-five bright women busy. I am "the out of town member" with whom they enjoy a day's outing and lunch once or twice a year.

A new and promising club, "The Kansas Commonwealth Club," is but six months old. It is a state club, and has just closed a week's institute at Topeka, where we had some of the best talent in the United States, viz., Chancellor Snow of State University; Dr. Bemis, formerly of Chicago University; Prof. Parsons of Boston, Senator Young of Kansas, George D. Hemons of Grinnell, Iowa, and many others, who gave us messages for life's uplifting work. You may be sure that "The divine discontent" has reached and permeated all Kansas life, especially its women.—Katherine Hoffman, President As You Like It.

Seattle, Washington, is fully alive to the importance of the club movement, as is evinced by the large number of women having club affiliation. Among the more recent organizations is a City Federation of Woman's Clubs, which has a representation from some three hundred club women. This City Federation is the motive power of all the city clubs in their efforts along the line of philanthropy, municipal reform and executive endeavor. The Washington State Federation will hold its annual convention in that city next June. All the preparation for this event is under the direct supervision of the City Federation, which was organized just one year ago.—Myra C. Ingraham.

The Woman's Manual, post-paid, 75 cents.

Housekeepers must be watchful, for great efforts are made to sell the alum baking powders which every physician will inform you are poisonous to the human system.

The Government Report shows Royal Baking Powder to be an absolutely pure and healthful cream of tartar baking powder, and consumers who are prudent will make sure that no other enters into their food.

Baking powders sold at 25 cents or less per pound are made from alum.

THE BEST OF ALL THINGS.

The best of all things which it is possible for mortal man to possess is a sound mind in a sound body. All other blessings, all other of life's comforts of a material nature, are secondary to this. One's life may be free from the discomforts of poverty, the weight that is never separated from anxiety, the perplexing problem of every-day affairs, and yet walk amid thorns if there be not a body built and maintained in strict accordance with the plans and specifications of nature.

As it is taken for granted that the above statement is a self-evident truth and that it is wise and good to proclaim and teach such truth, is it not pertinent to ask, where in particular should the teaching of this bit of wisdom begin? Someone has said that all work for the betterment of mankind has its beginning at the fireside, by which is meant that all genuine reforms are begun by the mothers of the land. As this is a day of centralization of effort, especially in the United States, one finds the mothers everywhere banded together in women's clubs, and in such organizations there is opportunity for the accomplishment of a great work, quickly and effectively.

What better work, then, can engage the attention of women's clubs than the dissemination of knowledge of benefit to mankind, and what more useful knowledge can there be than that of knowing how to have a sound body as the abode of a sound mind? It is easily possible for practically all to have a sound body. It is the law and intent of nature for this to be. But nature prescribes certain rules, laws or directions for the realization of this. While it is true that nature permits of the repairing and rebuilding of a shattered or broken-down human body, just as a house can be rebuilt and made over, still the best way is to build aright at the beginning, that foundation and superstructure may comply with the specifications of nature, and therefore not only assure a perfect physical structure, but, in the nature of things, a guarantee that the mental and spiritual structures will also be perfect, for these last two are practically certain to be reflexes of the first.

How can a solid foundation for the support of a sound and enduring superstructure be built? By feeding the child such foods as will build every element of the child's body as nature directs. This is a duty every mother owes her child, and humanity dictates that this should be taught wherever there is a living human being. Say what one will, the fact remains that there is the densest kind of ignorance regarding the relations of food and health, even among otherwise intelligent people. Why shouldn't there be, for nothing is taught on the subject in school or college. But there is a widespread awakening among the people, thanks almost wholly to individual effort. It is shown that in order for perfect physical development all the fourteen elements the body must be adequately nourished.

The science of chemistry teaches that some foods are lacking in properties from which certain elements of the body are formed, and therefore a person living upon these foods will eventually have elements of the body defective in their formation. It may be defective teeth, defective muscles or defective bones, all

three combined. Their organization is defective because the kinds of food habitually eaten were defective in their organization. The whole science of living, then, is to eat such foods that are certain, either singly or in combination, to nourish and afford normal development to all the elements of the body. There is no other way to keep in health, no other way to have a sound body for the abode of a sound mind. The child has no voice in the selection of its foods. It accepts what its mother provides; and, therefore, upon the mother rests the responsibility for the nature of its physical being. Ignorance of the matter in question has been the excuse of many a mother in the past for the improper feeding of her child. Can this ignorance be pleaded longer as a valid excuse? At any rate, let those who know the necessity of proper feeding tell it to those who do not.

Common sense sustains every conclusion made concerning the absolute necessity of eating foods that furnish, alone or by combination, all the properties for the making of the different elements of the body. The wasted tissues of the body thrown off in its daily life need restoring, and that this may be properly accomplished foods perfect in their formation must be eaten. The new body cells and tissues can be made strong, active and healthy, or weak, inactive and sluggish, according to the nature of the food that is eaten. That buoyancy of spirit that all so eagerly desire comes from the eating of food that agrees with the system, and not because it is most pleasant to the taste.

As the superstructure cannot stand firm and secure on a weak and faultily constructed foundation, neither can there be good, robust health in the body through the veins of which course an impoverished blood. A disorganized, impoverished food results in a like kind of physical life; but food proper in its organization, with all the nutritive constituents essential to the complete nourishment of the body, results in blood that tones the system for its legitimate work.

As to proper foods, by which is meant those that are perfect in organization, possessing all the properties needed to nourish all the elements of the body, it can be said they are just as accessible, as economical and in as great variety as the improper or disorganized foods. Milk is a perfect food, but many people of varying ages experience difficulty in digesting this food. But let it be eaten with shredded whole wheat biscuit and there will be no difficulty of this nature. The shredded wheat digests the milk, there is a perfect combination, and every element of the body is nourished. The cause of this desirable action is mainly due to the fact that not only does wheat as it is gleaned ripened from the field contain all the nutritive properties needed by all the elements of the body, but contains them in just the requisite proportions. Wheat, however, to perform its perfect work, must not be robbed of any of its food properties, which it is in every instance presented for human food except that of the shredded whole wheat biscuit.

When wheat is robbed of its life building and life sustaining properties some foreign substance like baking powder, lard, alum or such is used to make it palatable, but in the case of the shredded whole biscuit no ingredient whatever is needed to make it wholesome and palatable, for it is perfect in its organization, just as the whole wheat in the field is perfect and the ideal proper food of nature, for it builds and nourishes every element of the body, each according to its needs.

WHAT CLUBS ARE DOING.

The Woman's Club of North Yakima (Wash.) had its beginning on March 7, 1894, through the efforts of the late Mrs. Susanna E. Steinweg. Upon the adoption of a constitution, twenty-five ladies signed the roll as charter members, the membership being restricted to that number. Since that time the limit has been increased to forty-five. For a time the club met at the homes of its members. Through the courtesy of the Commercial Club, the meetings are now held weekly in the elegant and commodious club parlors.

The object of the club is intellectual and social culture. The first year was devoted to the study of Holland, the second to the United States, the third to English and American literature, art and music of the 19th century; also papers on practical questions once a month. The fourth year was given to travels to the principal cities and points of interest in the United States and Great Britain. The present year is given to a civil study of the United States and Mexico, including days given to art and music. There are also papers on the leading and practical questions of the day, followed by general discussion. Current events has formed part of the program each year.

The Central Club of Norwalk, Conn., which has pioneered along somewhat different lines from most other clubs, has just issued its annual report, giving a gratifying showing. The club rents a cosy club-house on the beautiful avenue which connects the two little cities of Norwalk and South Norwalk, and in the most liberal way makes this a meeting place for less fortunate clubs, for committee meetings of the townspeople, and for the use of members entertaining their friends. Last year there were given by the Central Club 14 lectures, 6 receptions, including the brilliant New Year's Day reception to which, each year, all the town are made welcome, 2 concerts, a round table discussion upon "The Needs of Norwalk," and a great many classes. It established a Penny Provident Bank, which has now 395 depositors among the little children, organized Auxiliary No. 11, Red Cross Society, and housed two new organizations, "The Historical and Memorial Library Association" and "The Library Club." One of its latest and most successful lectures was upon the theme, little understood and almost unexploited in the East, "Indian Basketry." This was given by the Rev. W. C. Curtis, some time a resident of The Dalles, Oregon, a centre for the Klickitat Indians. He has a most interesting collection, which he uses to illustrate his talk. So fascinating was the topic, so ably was it treated, and so valuable were the specimens, that the afternoon was not only of much value in an educative way, but perfectly delightful. Mr. Curtis has the contagious enthusiasm of the collector, and a most endearing gift of humor.

An innovation has been made by the Delhi (O.) Woman's Fortnightly Reading Club. This club consists of twenty members, sixteen active members, and four who constitute an entertainment committee, and who do not write papers. This entertainment committee are responsible for the entire musical (instrumental and vocal) and elocutionary numbers at every meeting, and have entire jurisdiction in the matter, and either may furnish it themselves or provide substitutes. Each of this committee is an artist in her own special line, and whether they personally render the entertainment or get outside talent, the other members are freed from responsibility and sure of having the best. They make a point of having the music or recitations conform to the subject of the day, as for instance, when "America" was the subject, our national songs were rendered. "Russia" was not neglected, as the music for that day was entirely by Russian composers. One can readily see how large a scope this committee can have and how interesting it can be made. On guests days, this committee generally intersperse more than on the regular days, as some of the weighty subjects need the enlivening effect of the variety thus given. The idea has been adopted for three years in this club and it is a feature of club life that all clubs should copy, as most clubs are so serious as to become monotonous with nothing but essays and business to fill up the afternoon. Amoretta Fitch.

After attending a State Convention of Women's Clubs and listening to delegate after delegate give the *raison d'être* of her club to be "a desire for mutual benefit and improvement," one begins to believe that there is really nothing new under the sun. But while visiting in Baltimore, we learned of the reason for being of a large and influential suburban club that seems

absolutely unique. A refined and cultivated woman of Quaker descent, on account of illness, removed to one of the beautiful suburbs of Baltimore, where her health was soon restored. On her knees she asked of God what service she might render to show her gratitude for the blessing of restored health? It was a cold, conservative neighborhood into which she had come, each family seemingly wrapped up in self. The inspiration came to this noble-souled woman that she might do something to bring all these families together in the spirit of love and helpfulness. So she went from house to house, and invited all—even those who were strangers to her—to come and break bread together in her home on the following Thanksgiving Day. They came; and the day was in truth one of thanksgiving and praise. Quickly a club was organized, modeled after the New England Woman's Club, with the gentlemen as associated members. From this inspired thought time has evolved one of the largest and most influential clubs of Maryland.

Nellie Reid Cady.

SOROSIS celebrated her thirty-first anniversary March 20th with a breakfast at the Waldorf-Astoria. Over two hundred were present and twenty tables were arranged. One long one ran at right angles with the president's table, which was placed on the dais, and formed the lower part of a cross, and was trimmed with flowers laid on to spell the name "New-York State Federation." At this table Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, president of the State Federation, entertained twenty-two guests. Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison, president of Sorosis, in her address of welcome, graciously announced that there were "no strangers within the gates," for as soon as a stranger enters the realm of Sorosis she becomes at once a friend. Mrs. Denison began the afternoon announcements by mentioning the regrets for absence. These were received from J. M. Taylor of Vassar College, from Miss Helen Gould and from Mrs. Jennie C. Croly. The speaker then introduced was Mrs. Catharine Weed Barnes Ward. Mrs. Ward, while protesting that she had never resigned her membership in Sorosis, although she had been for some years living in London, said that the English organizations need the help of the more active societies carried on in this country. The particular subject of her talk was the work of the Women's Institute, one of the most catholic organizations of women's work, which has its headquarters in London, and of the American Committee, of which she is an active member and accredited representative in this country. She also asked to be the bearer of greetings to Mrs. Croly on her return to England. After two songs rendered by the Sorosis Carol Club, Mrs. Charlotte B. Wilbour, who was president from 1870 to 1875, spoke to the toast "The Day We Celebrate." She recapitulated the history of Sorosis, which she said "was and is a woman's club pure and simple, and with no complications," and in that capacity the limitless possibilities for the accomplishment of good were as brilliant as could be desired. "Statesmen of the Home" was the title of the toast to which Mrs. William Tod Helmuth responded. The speaker's advice was summed up in the words of Charlotte Bronte quoted on the program, "Soothe, comprehend, comfort him, and he is a lamb." She described the first lord of creation, Adam, who when alone in the Garden of Eden was statesman, politician and diplomat all in one, and she then showed how with the coming of Eve another sort of politics was introduced, augmented again by the diplomacy of Satan when he appeared

SPRINGER BROTHERS

Have removed to 155 TREMONT STREET,

Few doors south of West Street, Boston

(Store formerly occupied by Mrs. Crocker),

Where they will be pleased to welcome all their former customers and many new ones.

CLOAKS, FURS, SUITS, WAISTS, Etc.

on the scene. Her final words showed that man needs to be cajoled, and the women of the household who accomplish this are the statesmen of the occasion. A poem, "Unseen Guests," written for the twenty-fifth anniversary of Sorosis, was repeated by request by its author, Mrs. May Riley Smith, and Mrs. Kate Upson Clark spoke on "Gnats of the Hour," classifying as gnats the many disagreeable and so-called unavoidable things that the world is obliged to submit to. At this point, the former treasurer, Mrs. Christina J. Higley, was called up, and with a neat presentation speech by Mrs. Helmuth, was decorated with the Sorosis pin set in diamonds. Mrs. Higley said a few appropriate words of acknowledgment, and was followed by Mrs. Jennie de la M. Lozier, whose remarks on "An Ideal Education" were received with enthusiastic applause. Dr. Grace M. Kimball, now of Vassar College, spoke of the women of Turkey, among whom she had labored for many years. "Our Own Country" was the subject taken up by Mrs. Stella Goodrich Russell, followed by Mrs. Fannie Hallock Carpenter on "Unappreciated Blessings," in which men, apparently unappreciative of their wives, were likened to the traveler who rushes to catch his train and then sits down calmly to enjoy his ride, but saying little about it. The remainder of the program was given up to greetings from club presidents who were guests of the day. Mrs. Alice May Scudder spoke warmly for the sister organization, the Jersey City Woman's Club, which numbers 248 members, and gives all honor to Sorosis as a leader in the club movement. Mrs. Wilbur Fiske Wood represented the Staten Island Woman's Club, and Mrs. Edwin Knowles spoke for Chiropean, "the youngest daughter of the pioneer organization." Mrs. Westover-Alden brought the greetings of The Tribune Sunshine Society, whose motto and creed she explained. Mrs. William Gerry Slade voiced the sympathy of the Daughters of 1812 with Sorosis in all its aims. Mrs. John J. Hopper responded charmingly in behalf of Clio, and Mrs. L. K. Bourne, president of the Lydia Wadleigh Association, expressed the kindly interest of that body of workers. At the close of the program the Carol Club gave "The Star Spangled Banner," and the day was voted a great success.

LONDON, AND ITS WAYS.

February 5th, 1899.

ONE must winter, as well as summer with a person, or a place in order to understand them. If this is true of the ordinary person, and ordinary places, how much more true is it of a vast city like the capital of Great Britain, which is truly a metropolis in a sense in which no other city in the world approaches it, and has become so without any apparent intention, or consciousness, by the mere aggregation of forces?

London is a growth as rapid and as unceasing today as any western town in the United States, and as complex and diversified as a small universe. The population of upwards of five millions is naturally made up of every creature's worst as well as every creature's best; but the general average should be satisfactory, for the number of serious crimes and criminals has steadily diminished, though minor offences have increased with the growth of population, and its small death rate (15 per cent. for 1898) renders it the healthiest capital city in the world, New York ranking next.

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Wintering in London was not a matter of choice with the writer of this letter. It was thought of only as a center of fog, damp, chilliness and rheumatism.

There was a certain amount of truth in this foreboding. There are many gray days, and the dampness is chilly and penetrating, with frequent misty rain which falls gently but goes to the marrow all the same. Up to the present time, however, there has not been a fall of snow, the grass is green on the lawns and the shrubs which bower the one belonging to the house in which I am now staying are white with perennial blossoms. It is true the winter of general discontent is not over yet. It is only the beginning of February and the old adage still holds good:

"February fill dyke
Either black or white."

An important medium of supplies to the working population is the "costermonger" who goes round with his cart and "cries" his wares of every conceivable description. The costermongers are a class by themselves and live according to their own laws and customs. They have a "king" of their own choosing, who lives in a fine house and must have made his fortune strictly in their own trade. They visit him in a body once a year to offer their greeting and receive his response in cakes and ale.

They used to be famous for "walloping" their wives, as well as their donkeys; but the Baroness Burdett Coutts has changed all that. She is their great friend and they adore her.

They have a theatre of their own in a suburb where many of them live, Hoxton. The proprietor for many years is a woman, Mrs. Lane, whom they support loyally, and who has made a fortune. Once a year a unique performance is given in which the audience participate. This is a few nights before Christmas. There is no regular play that night. Instead the actors and actresses assemble on the stage attired in the costume of the part in which they have won the greatest success during the year, and from which they each give a funny line or phrase or appropriate greeting. The witty man gives his song, the "kicker" her dance, and the audience cheer uproariously and throw the gifts with which they have come laden at their favorites. The leading lady was almost smothered at the last celebration, December 19, 1898, by a big drawing room rug, upon which the whole company stood later to receive the final yells, cries and waving of handkerchiefs of the departing crowd.

No more striking proof, remarks one of the papers, of the increasing recognition accorded to women doctors is to be found in the fact that no fewer than twenty-one public or official appointments were bestowed upon qualified women last year. Among the important posts filled was that of medical examiner for defective children under the London School Board, conferred upon Mrs. Berry, M. D. Lond., who came to her duties with experience gained in the Alexandra Hospital for Hip Disease. At the Camberwell Infirmary there is a junior resident medical officer in Miss Meakin, M. B., who only took her degree last year, and a similar appointment is held in the Chorlton Union Hospital, near Manchester, by Miss Lewin, M. B. Miss Christie, M. D., was reappointed on plague duty in India.

Space is failing me as well as time, but I must leave the main subject and conclude with a few words in regard to the International Council, which holds its first convention here the latter part of June, and some of its personages.

The "amended program," as issued for the use of committees, includes five principal sections, each arranged under from nine to twelve divisions, and these again into groups of subjects. The sections are "educational," "professional," "legislative and industrial," "political" and "social." Women's clubs are discussed under two heads in the "social" section, "social clubs" and "girls' clubs." The club life of women in its most important aspects is not recognized.

Drama and music occupy an afternoon in the "professional" section, and Miss Genevieve Ward has been invited to give the leading paper upon the "Drama and Women." No better choice could have been made. Miss Ward is a typical "international" woman. Of American birth and parentage, of old England and New England ancestry, her own career and high reputation, the common possession of both England and America, render her the most admirable representative of any woman upon the two continents; add to this a social standing only equalled among actresses by that of Mrs. Kendal, her dearest friend, and a wide recognition as "honorary representative," gained by her hospitality and kindness to American women, and these qualifications heightened by a commanding presence and vigorous intellect, and you will see that drama has a fitting exponent.

Miss Ward's home is as typical as herself. It is in the northwest of London, 22 Avenue Road. It is the most perfectly comfortable house I have seen in England. It combines ideas and standards of England and America. The table is liberally supplied even according to American ideas, and as frequently with American as English dishes. At her Monday receptions one is sure to meet, not only Americans living in London, but latest arrivals of people socially accredited from America. A standard feature of the refreshments is "real" American gingerbread, made of New Orleans molasses, which only one grocer in London imports. Miss Ward is her own housekeeper; her brother, Col. Albert Lee Ward, who was an attache of the American legation at Paris during the Franco-Prussian war, constituting the only other member of the family. Her mother, a very remarkable woman, died a few years ago.

The London International Council seems to differ from its American prototype in being made up of individualities rather than societies. As yet no names of organizations composing its membership have been given.

Jenny June Croly.



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ABOUT VACATION SCHOOLS.

Information Issued by the Chicago Permanent Committee on Vacation Schools of Women's Clubs.

WITH the close of the school year begins a period of danger to the morals and health of the children of the poor. The children of the well-to-do have every provision made to guard and occupy them during vacation. The children of the poor are without legitimate pastime or playthings beyond the garbage box and the excitement of patrol wagon and various street evils. Their homes in the stifling tenements are too crowded and the parks too distant for them to use. They are forced upon the hot and dirty street, which, to many, becomes a school for crime.

An investigation of a typical district justifies this statement, since the police records there show an increase of 60 per cent. in juvenile arrests in the summer months. The enforced idleness demoralizes and degrades our growing citizens, and is a menace to our city. The cost in money and morals is so great that every taxpayer must see the economy of establishing such institutions as prevent this demoralization.

The Vacation School meets the evils of these conditions and overcomes them.

It is in no sense a continuation of the work of the school year.

No text books are used. All attendance is voluntary.

An adjunct to the school is the playground.

The school is open during the forenoons of six weeks in July and August, and the play-room and ground connected with it in the afternoons. It prevents the formation of evil habits, because through Manual Training, organized play and excursions with nature study, it holds the interest of the children and keeps them profitably occupied, as has been amply proven. It is an active means of making good citizens through the good habits formed and the sentiments roused.

New York has conducted Vacation Schools since 1894. So great became the interest of the public that the schools grew from three (3) in 1894 to ten (10) in 1897, all of which were supported through the contributions of citizens. The daily attendance was over 6,000. The School Board of New York, convinced of the good accomplished by these schools and playgrounds and the necessity for them, adopted them as part of the school system of the city, and appropriated \$25,000 for their maintenance in 1898. Brooklyn and Philadelphia have followed this example, and in all the results have been alike excellent.

In Chicago, in 1896, through the generosity of a few, a Vacation School was conducted in the Joseph Medill School, with an attendance of 360 children; 4,000, who fairly begged for admission, were turned away for lack of funds to pay teachers. Hundreds applied for admission in 1897. Such a school was through the munificence of one woman held in the Seward School, in the Stockyards District.

In 1898, the Women's Clubs took up the matter as their especial work, and \$10,000 was contributed by citizens, showing their faith in the schools and their belief in the necessity for them. Five schools were maintained with 2,000 pupils, while four times that number were turned away. Parents in hundreds of letters give thanks and show they are enthusiastically desirous to have the schools re-opened.

The Women's Clubs of Chicago are hard at work endeavoring to raise the necessary funds to establish as many schools as possible the coming summer, to the end that they may soon be adopted into our public school system, as in Greater New York and Philadelphia. They earnestly ask your aid.

The Board of Education will gladly grant the free use of the school buildings; for support the schools must, for the present, depend upon the generosity of the public. Each school costs \$1,000. Will you make 300 or 400 children happier by giving that amount?

If not, will you give a smaller sum? It costs \$3.00 for each child; for how many children will you provide? Or will you secure some money for the fund? Surely, money could not be put to better or wiser use.

The Chicago Permanent Vacation and Playground School Committee of Women's Clubs.

All communications should be addressed to

Sadie American, Chairman,
3130 Vernon Avenue, Chicago.

* FOR CLUB STUDY *

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ZONA GALE'S TALKS.

The trouble is with club presidents, they have too tremendous an idea of the situation's dignity. They overawe the mere members. I have in mind the president of one of the larger clubs in the state who, by the very way she stands up and says: "Ladies, you will come to order," freezes any latent enthusiasm in the hearts of her hearers, and makes formality the chief end of the meeting. Formality is not dignity, neither is formality parliamentary law. It is quite in accordance with Roberts' rules to say the most business-like things gracefully and graciously. Roberts in his most parliamentary moments would never have cared to see a chairman pucker her lips and erect her head stiffly and act as if the process of holding a meeting was one off par with the ordinary uses of life. Until the woman is perfectly at ease she can never be truly dignified in a president's chair or in her own drawing-room.

There comes a time to nearly every club woman when she has to do some very hard thinking indeed to convince herself that her club after all is worth while. A time, even, when she cannot argue herself out of the unwilling belief that it is not worth while, and that while its principle of life is healthful, a club's mode of life is unwholesome and bad. And when such a time comes she is face to face with the ugliest aspect that the Federation and the clubs outside have to face: The side that makes any good from club study and club philanthropy and club generosity seem an hundred times offset by the club temptations to office-seeking and wire-pulling and pettiness. But since there is this side to all club life, shut one's eyes as one may, it is a good thing to face it now and then, and to argue it all out, and to give it its proper place and no more. For black cloud as it is, after all it can only cover a very little bit of the blue.

Think of it! A woman wide enough awake to see the value of a club, who is stupid enough to be dishonest about her attitude to it! A woman who will give little teas to choice selected members; send violets with care and discrimination; write little suggesting notes; and work in a dozen ways to ingratiate herself and get "popularity" and ultimate votes! And who does this—not to be in power so that she may bring about needed club reforms, but simply because she likes the feeling of being a leader, and being known about in some scrap of a town! Isn't it appalling when you think of the bigness of things, that a woman who ostensibly joins a club to help it to good, should not be above so disgracing herself? There are women like this to right and to left. There are women who will even go farther, and make door to door canvasses—or reception to reception ones—to bring about an end in an election. And, let us be thankful that it does seem wholly unbelievable and impossible, but there are women who will go lower than this, and will take underhand, and low, and even anonymous means to an end.

Women who therefore have not the smallest knowledge of the meaning of their clubs; who do not see that they are not institutions of today or next year, but factors in life, and that trifling with the insignia of club membership is treading lightly in a sacred place. Some time it will work itself out; some time people outside will judge by purpose and first fruits, rather than by the false exponents nearly every club knows. But until that time comes woman's clubs ought to let the libraries and directors' day programs wait a little, and set themselves to making a clause in their constitution which shall punish with public expulsion the member convicted of bribery.—Evening Wisconsin.

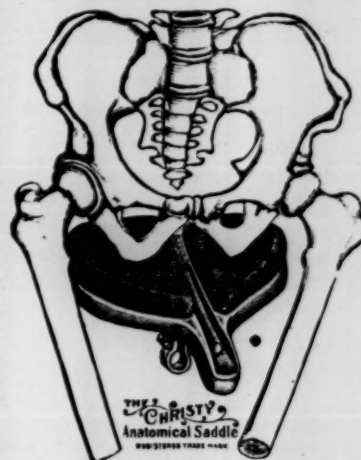
The afternoons provided for by home talent in the Somersworth, N. H., Woman's Club have been exceedingly interesting. The literary department recently presented "A Masque of Culture," and the French department enacted two short French plays. Children's Day has been observed by arranging "An Afternoon with Eugene Field," when Miss Elene Foster from Boston read, and Miss Elizabeth Watson accompanied by Miss Sutton sang selections from his works. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lynes have appeared before this club with their subject, "American Composers."

The house of Springer Brothers has long been a favorite one with Boston women who want the best goods and fairest treatment; and the removal of that firm from the old corner of Washington and Bedford streets is of interest to all who ever shop in Boston. Springer Brothers are now on the best part of Tremont street, overlooking the historic common, where they have one of the handsomest stores in town, fitted up with everything to make it elegant in appearance, and so light as to show beautifully their exceptionally fine stock of spring goods. The ground floor extends through to Mason street, and in the basement the workrooms are so airy and clean and light that the Consumers' League ought to patronize the place in a body. Their new spring styles excel everything shown at Springer Brothers' in past seasons, and that is saying a great deal.

Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Stetson, whose "Women and Economics" is attracting so much attention from thoughtful people everywhere, is open to engagements for club and public meetings in New York for the last two weeks in April, where her address will be 18 West 32d street. Her subjects are: General Lectures—The Social Organism; Our Brains and What Ails Them; The Servant Question Answered; The Power Behind the Throne; The New Motherhood; Home, Past, Present and Future; Our Unknown Children; Why We Work; Modern Myths; America's Place Today. Clubs and Parlor Meetings—The Club Conscience; Social Science; The Responsibility of the Purchaser; What We Need to Know Today; The Sense of Beauty in Women; Duties, Domestic and Other; To Improve Our Minds; Child Labor; Domestic Service; The Body, the Dress and the House. Sermons—Right and Wrong; Collective Ethics; The Joy of Life; Moral Gymnastics; Relative Virtues; The Heroes We Need Now; Truth; "Whoso Loseth His Life:" Body and Soul; Heaven. Mrs. Stetson is a fluent speaker, with a rare personal charm and magnetism that makes her able lectures exceedingly popular.

The Century Magazine is redeeming its promise to cover the war of 1898 as authoritatively as it did the campaigns of 1861-65, though the late and shorter war demands much less time and space in the magazine; and, in fact, as a magazine feature, the April and May numbers will practically close the series as far as it relates to active operations. In April an article of extraordinary interest and importance is Rear-Admiral Sampson's full and frank statement of the part taken by "The Atlantic Fleet in the Spanish War," and there are several other valuable war articles, including Mr. McCutcheon's account of the surrender of Manila as viewed from Admiral Dewey's warship. The Tissot pictures continue to be an important feature, and General Sherman's diary is exceptionally interesting this month. Prof. Peckham's article on "Absolute Zero" gives with scientific authority an account of recent inventions for the productions of liquid air. A striking literary feature is the new poem, "Cities of Hell," by the young English poet, Stephen Phillips. One of Mrs. Wilcox's most serious poems is "Recrimination," a series of three sonnets. Prof. Wheeler, in his popular "Life of Alexander," describes "The Famous Siege of Tyre," illustrated by Castaigne. "Franklin as Printer and Publisher" is not the least entertaining of Mr. Ford's biographical serial. Marion Crawford furnishes the principal fiction of the number, along with a story called "Jack," showing the curious relations between the whites and the Canadian Indians. The story is by Miss Goodloe and is illustrated in an original way by Jane Hambidge. Lovers of art will be specially interested in Cole's "Stable Interior," exquisitely engraved after George Moreland, which is the frontispiece; Gilbert Stuart's portrait of Mrs. Rawle, and Julia Weir's "Green Bodice," both engraved on wood by Henry Wolf.

ABOUT SADDLES.



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Four O'Clock,

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CHICAGO, ILL.

FOUR O'CLOCK is a dainty, artistic magazine. Full of original short stories, always interesting and always clever. There are others that publish short stories, but **FOUR O'CLOCK** is the leader of its class.

In these days almost every club woman of prominence has her picture published in some kind of periodical or book. Some of these reproductions are fine, others are positively ghastly; it depends largely on the photograph which is reproduced. It behooves club women, then, to look into the matter of photographing and to find out where they can be sure of the finest pictures made. In New England no better work can be had than that at Purdy's, 146 Tremont street, Boston. The greatest pains are taken there to have every detail just right, and the photographer studies his subject as the artist does his model to bring out the best points. In matters of finishing, too, they are quite up-to-date, and one is sure of getting the latest desirable touch to one's photograph at Purdy's. The fact that such people as Senator Hoar, Secretary Long, B. F. Keith and other prominent men whose pictures are greatly in demand go to Purdy's for an artistic photograph speaks volumes. The club woman—or any other woman—will make no mistake in following their example.

As the time for hay-fever draws nearer, thousands of people begin to dread the summer and make plans for seeking some place where there is no such thing known. It seems, however, that at last the time has come when science and skilful treatment are to combine and do away with this slavery. "Xanax" is a simple remedy which, if taken early in the season, will prevent the appearance of this annoying and painful complaint. Better than this, it will positively cure asthma. The editor of this paper has in her immediate circle of friends a boy of seven whose sufferings from asthma have been agonizing from his babyhood. He has tried many remedies without lasting relief from any. Recently a test was made of "Xanax." The boy was breathing with the greatest difficulty when his mother, in desperation, wet a handkerchief with the preparation and placed it on his pillow. Within ten minutes he was asleep and breathing as naturally and easily as a baby, continuing to do so all night. He is now taking the full treatment. We have never before recommended a medicine to our readers; but we believe this remedy to be no "quack medicine" or questionable drug, but a real benefit to sufferers from lung and throat troubles; therefore we advise all such to read the announcement of the Electro Chemical Co. in this number.

Miller's Hotel has passed its twenty-eighth anniversary, having been first opened to the public on October 27, 1870. It was the outgrowth of a demand for some public house in New York City where ladies travelling alone could be accommodated, and where families, whether permanent or transient guests, could find more of quiet and comfort and less of publicity than at the larger hotels. One family has been at the hotel for a period of twenty-eight years, several other families for periods ranging from five to fifteen years, and twenty-five of the present guests have been at the house an average of more than a dozen years. The proprietor, Mr. Charles H. Haynes, who was for many years principal of an academy in Western Massachusetts, enjoys the distinction of being about the only successful hotel man who is at the same time a good poet. We append a sample of his poetry:

All day we tend the busy loom
That weaves the texture of our doom.
Wheels within wheels, at rapid rate
Run off the fabric of our fate.
Our task enjoined from sun to sun;
The more we do, the less seems done.

And many a tangled web we weave,
With warp and woof of make-believe;
A dull, grey ground of sober truth,
With figures of the dreams of youth;
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